CEYLON

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

FOR THE YEAR

1887.

Colombo:

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CEYLON

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS, 1887.

PART I.—REVENUE.

CUSTOMS.

MEMORANDUM ON THE CUSTOMS REVENUE RETURNS FOR 1887.

THE year 1887 has been a very prosperous one, as far as the Customs revenue and the trade of the Colony is concerned:—

	Rs.	c.
Value of Imports in 1887	50,312,136	63
Value of Exports in 1887	40,018,869	84
Total ...	90,331,006	47

and deducting specie:—

	Rs.	c.
Imports	45,534,604	79
Exports	38,354,967	38
Total ...	83,889,572	17

The contrast of the last-mentioned amounts with the results of commerce in 1885 and 1886 is as follows:—

Imports, less Specie.	Rs.	c.	*Exports, less Specie.*	Rs.	c.
Increase over 1885 ...	4,745,285	83	Increase over 1885 ...	4,510,842	3
Do. 1886 ...	2,739,417	66	Do. 1886 ...	4,715,768	72

Annual value of the trade of the Colony for the last ten years, deducting specie:—

	Rs.		Rs.
1878 ...	93,254,340	1883 ...	78,328,553
1879 ...	96,293,006	1884 ...	76,992,639
1880 ...	97,813,458	1885 ...	74,633,444
1881 ..	78,794,252	1886 ...	76,434,385
1882 ...	78,101,205	1887 ...	83,889,572

The gross Customs revenue for 1887 amounted to Rs. 3,179,404, which exceeds that for 1886 by Rs. 235,189.

Gross Customs Revenue for the ten years ending 1887.

	Rs.	c.		Rs.	c.
1878 ..	3,189,024	17	1883 ...	2,777,708	66
1879 ...	3,065,018	1	1884 ...	2,834,656	73
1880 ...	3,079,386	42	1885 ...	2,903,718	49
1881 ...	3,046,596	74	1886 ...	2,944,215	80
1882 ...	2,867,139	20	1887 ...	3,179,404	72

This statement shows that the revenue for 1887 exceeds that collected in any year since 1878, and that during the last five years there has been a steady annual increase.

Increased duties were, it is true, levied on certain articles, such as guns, spirits, wines, sugar, &c., under Ordinance 39 of 1884, which came into operation on January 1, 1885, but, on the other hand, Port and Harbour dues, which were formerly brought to account as revenue, have been handed over to the Harbour Fund since 1883.

Revenue for each Province in 1887.

	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Western Province.				
Colombo ...	2,663,548	18		
Béruwala ...	12,135	38		
Negombo ...	4,118	32		
Kalpitiya ...	1,434	39		
			2,681,236	27
Southern Province.				
Galle ...	225,428	92		
Balapitiya ...	496	82		
Dodandúwa ...	197	66		
Weligama ...	64	50		
Hambantota ...	148	29		
			226,336	19
Northern Province.				
Jaffna ...	84,190	86		
Point Pedro ...	25,979	10		
Valuvedditurai ...	5,602	7		
Kankésanturai ...	68,877	78		
Mannár ...	13,007	5		
Pésálai ...	1,684	57		
Vankálai ...	324	19		
Silávatturai ...	428	69		
Kayts ...	12,350	83		
Mullaittívu ...	207	92		
			212,653	6
Eastern Province.				
Batticaloa ...	31,632	75		
Trincomalee ...	27,546	45		
			59,179	20
		Total ...	3,179,404	72

Harbour Dues, &c., not credited to Revenue during the last five years.

	Rs.		Rs.
1883 ...	379,018	1886 ...	397,876
1884 ...	376,022	1887 ...	443,126
1885 ...	394,382		

Amount of Duty collected under the Medical Wants Ordinance.

	1885. Rs.	c.	1886. Rs.	c.	1887. Rs.	c.
Colombo ...	61,147	63	52,714	76	55,557	90
Galle ...	137	81	119	12	149	65
Total ...	61,285	44	52,833	88	55,707	55

IMPORTS.

The following statement shows the value of imports and specie into each of the provinces in the Colony :—

	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Value of Imports.				
Eastern Province	663,308	76		
Northern Province	2,714,188	52		
Southern Province	2,785,945	57		
Western Province	39,371,161	94		
			45,534,604	79
Value of Specie.				
Southern Province	40	0		
Western Province	4,777,491	84		
			4,777,531	84
		Total ...	50,312,136	63

Arms and Ammunition, compared with 1886, show an increase in duty of Rs. 2,392.

Cotton Manufacture.—Cotton goods, twist, and thread show a total value of Rs. 4,836,884, and the sum collected as duty on the quantity cleared from the Customs amounts to Rs. 233,018, which shows an increase compared with 1886 of Rs. 8,722.

Value of Cotton Goods Imported.

	1885. Rs.	1886. Rs.	1887. Rs.
United Kingdom	2,167,773	2,857,893	2,953,867
British and Foreign Possessions in India ...	1,164,484	1,593,656	1,800,879
France, Germany, Italy, and Trieste ...	138,417	121,368	82,137

The amounts set opposite to each country in the following statement represent the increase and decrease in the value of the cotton goods therefrom in 1887 as compared with 1886 :—

	Rs.
United Kingdom, increase	95,974
British Possessions, increase	207,223
Foreign Ports, decrease	39,231

Cement (exclusive of the quantity imported at Colombo as Government stores of the value of Rs. 118,600).—There is a decrease as compared with last year in value of Rs. 52,584, and in quantity 15,024 cwt.

Coal and Coke.—There is a decrease in the quantity imported, being 181,530 tons, against 185,511 tons in 1886. The landings at the two principal ports are as follows :—

	Tons.
Colombo	160,952
Galle	20,578
Total ...	181,530

Kerosine Oil, chiefly from the United States, gives an increase, compared with 1886, of Rs. 29,186 in value and in duty of Rs. 1,723.

Food Articles as compared with 1886 show an increase on :—

	Value Rs.	Duty Rs.
Butter	7,775	284
Cheese	3,492	144
Curry stuffs	101,413	6,870
Fish, dried	334,010	13,728
Flour, wheat	111,749	7,451
Ham and bacon	3,327	178
Potatoes	547	25

Grain.—There is an increase in the importation of rice and paddy in value of Rs. 1,498,156 and in duty of Rs. 109,725 as compared with 1886.

The following is a statement of the importation of rice for home consumption for five years, viz. :—

	Bushels.
1883	5,660,650
1884	5,430,597
1885	5,780,675
1886	5,492,166
1887	5,717,623
Average of five years	5,616,342

Live Stock of all kinds.—There is increase in value of Rs. 168,162.

Manure.—An increase in value of Rs. 77,973.

Machinery.—An increase in value of Rs. 156,672.

Malt Liquor.—The receipts on account of duty amount to Rs. 20,880, and the duty refunded on the consumption by the troops to Rs. 3,291.

Metals and Metalware.—An increase in value of Rs. 142,570.

Opium.—An increase in quantity of 407 lb.

Poonac shows an increase of 4,085 cwt.

Spirits of all kinds show an increase in value of Rs. 15,437 and in duty of Rs. 25,264. The quantity entered for home consumption was 57,223 gallons, against 50,858 gallons in 1886.

Specie shows a decrease of Rs. 283,068·66 :—

	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Decrease.				
United Kingdom	3,570	0		
Australia	35,849	16		
British India	407,040	0		
France	750	0		
Suez	10,009	0		
			457,218	16
Increase.				
Straits Settlements	168,858	50		
Alexandria	4,550	0		
China	675	0		
Germany	66	0		
			174,149	50
		Total ...	283,068	66

Tobacco shows an increase in quantity of 826 cwt. and on cigars 2,906 lb.

Wines of all kinds show an increase of Rs. 9,056 in value and Rs. 1,917 in duty.

EXPORTS.

The result of the export trade for 1887 is shown in the following figures :—

	Rs.	c.
Value of goods, Ceylon produce	36,873,035	16
Do. Imports exported	1,481,932	22
Specie	1,663,902	46
Total ...	40,018,869	84

The export trade of each Province is as follows :—

	Rs.	c.
Western Province	37,148,894	22
Southern Province	1,664,081	28
Northern Province	1,063,266	59
Eastern Province	142,627	75
	40,018,869	84
Less Specie.		
Colombo	1,663,902	46
Total value of goods ...	38,354,967	38

The foregoing values of goods, compared with those for the two preceding years, give the following result :—

Ceylon Produce.	Rs.	c.
Increase over 1885	4,107,686	41
Do. 1886	4,615,117	28

There is a decrease in the export of specie in 1887 as compared with 1885 of Rs. 274,377, but an increase as compared with 1886 of Rs. 403,302.

The comparative statement of Ceylon produce which is appended will show the increase or decrease in the principal articles exported as compared with the two preceding years.

Coffee.—The export of plantation coffee continues to decrease, the falling of being 3,973 cwt. as compared with 1886, but the value having ruled higher in 1887 there is an increase under this head of Rs. 3,125,014.* In native coffee there is an increase both in quantity and value over 1886 of 3,253 cwt. and Rs. 339,945.

Liberian Coffee shows a falling off in quantity compared with 1885 and 1886 of 1,906 cwt. and 415 cwt., but an increase in value of Rs. 20,757 and Rs. 38,875 respectively.

Cocoa.—There has been a steady increase in this article both in quantity and value during the last three years : the outturn in 1887 by more than double that of 1885.

Cinchona Bark.—The total outturn fell short of the two preceding years by 623,104 lb. and 1,562,596 lb. respectively, and the average value of both kinds has been considerably lower.

The falling off, I may note, has been confined to "Branch and Twig"; in "Trunk" there has been an increase in quantity over each of the two preceding years.

Tea.—The total export in 1887 was 13,834,057 lb., and the value at the rate fixed by the Chamber of Commerce (60 cents per pound) Rs. 8,300,434. The quantity exported in 1887 is more than treble that of 1885 and nearly double that of 1886, but the value is rated five cents per pound less than in the two preceding years. The largest quantity was exported to the United Kingdom, Australia coming next, while certain quantities have been sent to British India, Hamburg, United States of America, Mauritius, the Straits Settlements, and other countries, Salonica receiving 2 lb.

The duty collected in the above-mentioned articles during 1887 amounted to Rs. 55,707·55. The quantities shipped in the years under review are as follows :—

		cwt.	qr.	lb.		Rate, Rs.		Rs.	c.
				Coffee, Plantation.					
1885	...	295,038	1	27	...	40	...	11,801,539	64
1886	...	169,163	1	21	...	45	...	7,612,354	69
1887	...	165,190	1	4	...	65	...	10,737,368	57
				Coffee, Native.					
1885	...	20,611	1	12	...	25	...	515,283	93
1886	...	10,046	3	13	...	35	...	351,640	31
1887	...	13,299	2	25	...	52	...	691,585	61
				Coffee, Liberian.					
1885	...	5,325	2	13	...	25	...	133,140	40
1886	...	3,834	0	11	...	30	...	115,022	95
1887	...	3,419	3	23	...	45	...	153,897	99
				Cocoa.					
1885	...	7,466	1	22	...	40	...	298,657	86
1886	...	13,056	0	24	...	42	...	548,361	0
1887	...	17,460	1	12	...	48	...	838,097	14

Cinchona.

		lb.		Rate, c.			
1885	... Trunk	10,861,065	...	35	...	3,801,372	92
	... Br. & Tg.	2,875,106	...	6	...	172,506	36
1886	... Trunk	12,033,486	...	35	...	4,211,720	10
	... Br. & Tg.	2,642,177	...	6	...	158,530	62
1887	... Trunk	12,099,731	...	20	...	2,419,946	20
	... Br. & Tg.	1,013,336	...	2	...	20,266	72

Tea.

1885	...	4,372,721	...	65	...	2,842,269	14
1886	...	7,849,888	...	65	...	5,102,427	20
1887	...	13,834,057	...	60	...	8,300,434	35

Of the products of the cocoanut palm, coir fibre shows and increase of 4,419 cwt. and Rs. 33,144, and 5,567 cwt. and Rs. 41,757 respectively, over the two preceding years.

Cocoanuts show an increase both in quantity and value of 7,638,247 and Rs. 244,883, and 4,613,090 and Rs. 101,204 respectively.

Copperah shows a decrease as compared with the two preceding years—25,364 cwt. and Rs. 206,442, and 20,173 cwt. and Rs. 306,840 respectively.

Cocoanut Oil shows an increase of 58,262 cwt. and Rs. 725,033, and 46,134 cwt. and Rs. 574,113, during the same period.

Poonac shows an increase likewise, both in quantity and value, of 61,013 cwt. and Rs. 170,774, and 26,110 cwt. and Rs. 75,664.

Arrack shows an increase as compared with 1886, but a decrease compared with 1885. The total quantity exported in the year was 87,323 gallons in the proportion of :—

	Gallons.
Colombo	29,817
Galle	57,506
Total ...	87,323

Mention may also be made of the following articles :—

Cardamoms.—There is a steady increase of 199,873 lb. and Rs. 108,788, and 45,067 lb. and Rs. 108,700 over the last two years.

Cinnamon.—Though there has been a falling off in the total quantity of 99,104 lb. and 318,885 lb. as compared with the two preceding years, there was considerably less of what is known in the trade as *chips* exported in 1887.

Citronella Oil.—There is an increase of 1,986,446 oz. and Rs. 107,663 over 1885, and an increase in quantity of 870,781 oz. but a decrease in value of Rs. 20,333, as compared with 1886.

The quantity of plumbago exported was less by 3,161 cwt. than in 1886, but compared with 1885 there is an increase of 42,200 cwt. The total amount of royalty collected is as follows :—

	Rs.	c.
Colombo	56,223	15
Galle	3,427	2
Total ...	59,650	17

The quantity of ebony exported fell short of the shipments in the two preceding years, but a large quantity of satin and sapanwood was shipped.

The shipment of unmanufactured tobacco shows a decrease both in quantity and value as compared with the two preceding years.

The quantity of malt liquor of Ceylon manufacture, in wood, exported during 1887 was 175,587 gallons, which is an increase of 60,404 gallons over the quantity for 1886.

The statement above referred to shows the increase in quantity and value of produce exported in 1887, as compared with 1885 and 1886 :—

	1885.			1886.		
		Quantity.	Value.		Quantity.	Value.
Cardamoms ...	lb. pkg.	199,873 55	... Rs.108,788	lb. pkg.	45,067 55	... Rs.108,700
Cocoa ...	cwt.	9,994	... 539,440	cwt.	4,404	... 289,736
Coffee, Plantation...	,,	decrease	... decrease	,,	decrease	... 3,125,014
Coffee, Native ...	,,	decrease	... 176,302	,,	3,253	... 339,945
Coffee, Liberian ...	,,	—	... 20,757	,,	decrease	... 38,875
Cocoanuts ...	No.	7,638,247	... 244,883	No. bags	4,613,090 645	... 101,204
Coir, Fibre ...	cwt.	4,419	... 33,144	cwt.	5,567	... 41,757
Coir, Rope ...	,,	decrease	... —	,,	163	... 2,037
Hides and Skins ...	,,	—	... 90,087	,,	—	... 68,707
Oil, Cocoanut ...	,,	58,262	... 725,033	,,	46,134	... 574,113
Oil, Citronella ...	oz.	1,986,446	... 107,663	oz.	870,781	... decrease
Other Essential Oil	,,	14,288	... 5,942	,,	decrease	... decrease
Plumbago ...	cwt.	42,200	... 422,000	cwt.	decrease	... decrease
Poonac ...	,,	61,013	... 170,774	,,	26,110	... 75,664
Spirits, Arrack ...	gal.	decrease	... decrease	gal.	21,246	... 5,483
Timber, Sapan ...	cwt.	4,056	... 26,712	cwt.	6,023	... 38,702
Timber, Satin ...	,, logs	2,646 287	... 3,659 ... —	,, logs	1,768 293	... 9,137
Other woods of sorts		—	... 3,506		decrease	... —
Tea ...	lb.	9,461,336	... 5,458,165	lb.	5,984,169	... 3,198,007

And a decrease as compared during the same period :—

		Quantity.	Value.		Quantity.	Value.
Arecanuts ...	cwt.	32,543	... Rs.393,901	cwt.	42,495	... Rs.452,278
Cinchona Bark ...	lb.	623,104	... 1,533,667	lb.	1,562,596	... 1,930,038
Cinnamon ...	,,	99,104	... 49,552	,,	318,885	... 159,443
Coffee, Plantation...	cwt.	129,848	... 1,064,171	cwt.	3,973	... increase
Coir, Rope ...	,,	1,185	... 14,824	,,	increase	... increase
Coir, Yarn ...	,,	13,660	... 81,958	,,	8,256	... 49,535
Copperah ...	,,	25,364	... 206,442	,,	20,173	... 306,840
Plumbago ...	,,	increase	... increase	,,	3,161	... 31,604
Spirits, Arrack ...	gal.	52,589	... 160,705	gal.	increase	... increase
Timber, Ebony ...	cwt. logs	409 188	... 11,526	cwt.	21,872	... 88,118
Tobacco, unmanufactured ...	cwt.	20,076	... 597,682	cwt.	9,989	... 367,655
Woods of sorts ...		—	... increase		—	... 8,680
Essential Oil ...	oz.	—	... increase	oz.	83,250	... 15,148

SHIPPING.

The dues, including wharfage on goods, collected at the port of Colombo during the year 1887 amount to Rs. 443,126·48, paid on steamers, sailing vessels, and native craft, in the following proportions, viz. :—

	Inwards.						Outwards.					
	Dues paid for entering Harbour.			Dues paid on Tonnage of Cargo.			Dues paid on Tonnage of Cargo.			Dues paid for remaining over hours.		
	No.	Amount.		No.	Amount.		No.	Amount.		No.	Amount.	
		Rs.	c.		Rs.	c.		Rs.	c.		Rs.	c.
Steamers	1,051	109,450	0	550	66,522	0	517	20,326	75	89	3,705	0
Sailing Vessels ...	45	3,820	0	27	15,147	25	25	4,763	31	46	3,555	0
Native Craft ...	984	6,375	0	926	8,713	11	599	2,210	39	474	1,912	50

Recapitulated, the contributions stand thus :—

		Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Steamers		200,003	75		
Sailing Vessels		27,285	56		
Native Craft		19,211	0		
				246,500	31
Wharfage	Imports	134,587	71		
	Exports	50,653	66		
				185,241	37
Collection on live stock		—		11,384	80
	Total ...			443,126	48

Comparative Statement of Vessels and Tonnage for 1885, 1886, and 1887.

	Inwards.		*Outwards.*	
	No. of Vessels.	Tons.	No. of Vessels.	Tons.
1885 ...	2,988 ...	1,823,117	2,959 ...	1,738,075
1886 ...	3,088 ...	1,952,290	3,153 ...	1,971,191
1887 ...	3,198 ...	2,071,214	3,265 ...	2,071,143

The appended return of vessels entered inwards and cleared outwards at the several ports in the Island show the number and tons for each Province :—

	Entered Inwards.		*Cleared Outwards.*	
Ports.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Western Province ...	1,799 ...	1,727,844	1,803 ...	1,738,052
Southern Province...	184 ...	244,275	180 ...	227,538
Northern Province...	1,138 ...	93,553	1,190 ...	99,485
Eastern Province ...	77 ...	5,542	92 ...	6,068

Total inwards, 3,198 vessels and 2,071,214 tons, and total outwards, 3,265 vessels and 2,071,143 tons, made up as follows :—

	Entered Inwards.		Cleared Outwards.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British	843	1,507,007	825	1,479,026
Colonial	2,133	184,740	2,205	200,314
American	4	4,875	8	9,253
Austrian	43	74,933	48	80,353
Dutch	4	5,728	5	8,747
French	68	141,812	68	140,796
German	66	131,850	65	128,057
Italian	3	3,858	3	3,788
Maldivian	24	817	25	845
Norwegian	4	4,003	3	2,856
Russian	4	6,890	4	6,890
Spanish	2	4,701	4	8,364
Swedish	—	—	2	1,874

Compared with 1886, as regards inwards :—

	Increase.		Decrease.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British	27	101,446	—	—
Colonial	65	1,556	—	—
American	—	—	1	380
Austrian	—	—	17	33,006
Dutch	—	—	15	26,701
French	—	—	1	5,686
German	44	97,319	—	—
Italian	—	—	5	15,844
Maldivian	15	497	—	—
Norwegian	—	—	4	4,152
Russian	3	5,797	—	—
Spanish	—	—	1	1,921

Compared with 1886, as regards outwards :—

	Increase.		Decrease.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British	6	48,932	—	—
Colonial	80	21,480	—	—
American	—	—	2	1,070
Austrian	—	—	14	26,009
Dutch	—	—	14	23,427
French	1	—	—	69
German	40	90,189	—	—
Italian	—	—	5	15,915
Maldivian	18	576	—	—
Norwegian	—	—	4	4,148
Russian	3	5,797	—	—
Spanish	1	1,742	—	—
Swedish	2	1,874	—	—

Inwards.—Compared with 1885, there is an increase of 210 vessels and 248,097 tons; and compared with 1886 there is an increase of 110 vessels and 118,924 tons.

Outwards.—Compared with 1885, there is an increase of 306 vessels and 333,068 tons; and compared with 1886, there is an increase of 102 vessels and 99,952 tons.

In 1887, 179 vessels, aggregating 288,471 tons, called at Colombo to coal, as against 136 vessels, aggregating 279,138 tons in 1886, showing an increase of 43 vessels and 9,333 tons.

At Galle, there is an increase of 39 vessels and 54,060 tons :—

	No.	Tons.
1886	219	312,429
1887	258	366,489
Increase	39	54,060

The number and tonnage of steamers and sailing vessels entered inwards and cleared outwards in 1887, exclusive of those calling to coal and for orders, at Colombo and Galle are as follows :—

		Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.	
		No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Colombo	Inwards	840	1,500,954	852	222,194	1,692	1,723,148
	Outwards	839	1,499,576	849	233,695	1,688	1,733,271
	Total	1,679	3,000,530	1,701	455,889	3,380	3,456,419
Galle	Inwards	148	232,554	33	11,532	181	244,086
	Outwards	136	210,794	43	16,689	179	227,483
	Total	284	443,348	76	28,221	360	471,569

Customs, Colombo,
February 17, 1888.

R. REID,
Acting Principal Collector.

WESTERN PROVINCE.

REVENUE ADMINISTRATION REPORTS OF THE HON. THE GOVERNMENT AGENT, WESTERN PROVINCE, FOR 1887.

REVENUE.

THE revenue collected at the several kachchéries of the Western Province during 1887 amounted to only Rs. 1,599,373, being the smallest amount collected in any year since 1871, and showing a decrease as compared with that of 1886 of Rs. 143,780. The causes for this are explained in the notes which follow the comparative statements for the two years.

A statement of the collections for the past twenty years is instructive as showing that, notwithstanding the last ten years have been regarded as years of depression, yet the revenue collected at the Western Province kachchéries from 1878 to 1887 has been larger than that collected from 1868 to 1877.

It must be borne in mind that *Customs*, *Railway Receipts*, *Postage Stamps*, and *Fines and Forfeitures* recovered in the Colombo District, and some other items of revenue, are not included in these returns, the receipts under these heads being paid to the Treasury. This should be remembered when comparing the revenue collected at the kachchéries of the several Provinces. For instance, in the Auditor-General's returns attached to the Administration Reports the revenue of the Colombo District for 1886 would appear to be Rs. 803,694, whilst that of the Kandy District is Rs. 1,487,012, but of this large sum nearly Rs. 1,000,000 are *Railway Receipts* and over Rs. 100,000 are *Stamps*, which in Colombo are paid direct to the Treasury.

Statement showing the Collections at the Western Province Kachchéries for Twenty Years.

Year.		Revenue. Rs.	c.	Year.		Revenue. Rs.	c.
1868	...	1,361,414	4	1878	...	2,204,497	2
1869		1,465,321	44	1879	...	1,842,286	99½
1870	...	1,372,008	89½	1880	...	1,809,537	10
1871	...	1,563,233	67	1881	...	1,797,319	43
1872	...	1,707,824	72	1882	..	1,693,050	25
1873	...	1,663,246	69½	1883	.	1,714,011	11
1874	...	1,719,664	79	1884	..	1,800 816	19
1875	...	1,749,382	41½	1785	...	1,738,471	9
1876	...	2,012,672	98½	1886	...	1,743,154	33
1877	...	2,206,085	80½	1887	...	1,599,373	82

Comparative Statement of Collections for 1886–87.

Heads of Service.	1886. Rs.	c.	1887. Rs.	c.	Increase. Rs.	c.	Decrease. Rs.	c.
Arrears of Revenue	56,611	48	40,394	38	—		16,217	10
Customs	20,645	3	15,672	72	—		4,972	31
Port and Harbour Dues	4,919	96	6,637	30	1,717	34	—	
Land Sales	201,010	53	116,622	37	—		84,388	16
Land Revenue	270,754	4	260,479	58	—		10,274	46
Rents, exclusive of Land	152,097	98	146,233	77	—		5,864	21
Licenses	746,086	3	753,968	89	7,882	86	—	
Stamps	118,623	37	103,520	90	—		15,102	47
Taxes	6,397	95	4,427	31	—		1,970	64
Postage	364	60	469	1	104	41	—	
Fines and Forfeitures	16,968	3	15,223	13½	—		1,744	89½
Sale of Government Property	63,265	41	64,440	28½	1,174	87½	—	
Reimbursements	61,594	38	54,420	63	—		7,173	75
Interest	2,404	89	1,606	2	—		798	87
Miscellaneous	18,674	16	13,096	91	—		5,577	25
Railway Receipts	176	37	242	0	65	63	—	
Special Receipts	2,560	12	1,918	61	—		641	51
Total ...	1,743,154	33	1,599,373	82	10,945	11½	154,725	62½
Deduct Increase...							10,945	11½
Net Decrease ...							143,780	51

Arrears of Revenue.—This is always a very misleading item, and is the main reason why it is difficult to draw any conclusions from the annual revenue statements as now furnished. The decrease under this head is Rs. 16,217, and is due not to any laxity in collecting arrears, but because the arrears of revenue outstanding on January 1, 1887, were Rs. 33,848 less than the amount outstanding on January 1, 1886. It must be remembered that December's instalment of the arrack and toll rents is not due until December 31, and that ten days' grace is always allowed. The consequence is that a large proportion of one month's instalment of the arrack and toll rents of the Western Province is generally in arrears on January 1.

Customs.—This small loss is owing to the native traders who used to take vessels to Negombo and Béruwala being attracted to Colombo by the better opportunities of trading with the large amount of shipping in the harbour.

Land Sales.—The decrease under this head amounts to no less than Rs. 84,388.

Land Revenue.—The loss under this head is mainly in the Ratnapura District, where the Assistant Agent has recommended the remission of a certain portion of the paddy tax. The question is still under the consideration of Government.

Rents, exclusive of Lands.—This decrease merely indicates that the toll renters did not in 1887 pay so large a proportion of their December's instalment before December 31 as they did in 1886. The instalments were, however, paid a few days after the year closed.

Licenses.—The increase is due to the arrack rents having fetched a higher amount in 1887 than in 1886.

Stamps.—The loss under this head is principally at Negombo and Ratnapura, where postage stamps were originally procured from the kachchéri, but are now obtained direct from the Postmaster-General.

Taxes.—The decrease is mainly due to the removal of the Police from Ratnapura on the creation of a Local Board and the substitution of village constables.

Fines and Forfeitures.—The decrease under this head is mainly at Kalutara. It may be due either to a diminution of petty crime, or to the fact that the presiding magistrate considered imprisonment a greater deterrent than a fine.

Sale of Government Property.—The increase is due to a larger sale of Government timber than in the previous year.

Reimbursements.—Survey fees are brought to account under this head, and the decrease is consequent on fewer land sales.

Interest.—The arrears of revenue being smaller, the amount recovered as interest on those arrears is consequently reduced.

I here append a comparative statement of the revenue collected at the several District kachchéries during 1886 and 1887, giving the amount of Land Sales as a separate item. This shows how very misleading are these returns of revenue when they include such items as *Land Sales.*

Statement showing Revenue, less Land Sales, collected by the Government Agent and his Assistants in 1886 and 87.

Kachchéries.	1886.			1887.			Excess or Decrease in 1887 on 1886.
	Total Collections.	Land Sales	Collections, less Land Sales.	Total Collections.	Land Sales.	Collections, less Land Sales.	
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Colombo ...	838,416 40	27,164 56	811,251 84	825,780 77	24,045 68	801,735 9	— 9,516 75
Ratnapura ...	122,096 84	124 25	121,972 59	104,157 6	388 50	103,768 56	—18,204 3
Kégalla ...	239,070 42	134,255 77	104,814 65	136,908 11	21,919 17	114,988 94	+10,174 29
Negombo ...	290,610 29	10,332 9	280,278 20	246,322 71	5,751 78	240,570 93	—39,707 27
Kalutara ...	252,960 38	29,133 86	223,826 52	286,205 17	64,517 24	221,687 93	— 2,138 59
Total ...	1,743,154 33	201,010 53	1,542,143 80	1,599,373 82	116,622 37	1,482,751 45	—59,392 35

I have never been able to ascertain why the proposals of Lord Torrington's Government, made in 1848, which were approved by Earl Grey, then Secretary of State, were not carried out. The instructions given were to separate Land Revenue from Ordinary Revenue, and to class it under the head of Extraordinary Resources or Casual and Territorial Revenue.

The adoption of the principle laid down by Earl Grey that, as a general rule, all moneys accruing from Land Sales should be expended not as ordinary revenue, but in the construction of roads or other public works calculated to enhance the value of lands sold, would, I am sure, if generally made known, cause a large influx of capital into Ceylon and stimulate the opening of tea and other estates.

I.—FOOD SUPPLY.

It is difficult to write anything new on the food supply of the people, which has been reported upon annually for many years; but in compliance with instructions that it should be repeated from year to year, I annex the following remarks, having reference principally to the Colombo District:—

In the Colombo District, as in other parts of the Province, the people subsist mainly on imported rice, the yield of country-grown paddy being quite insufficient to meet their requirements.

It is impossible to frame a reliable return of the yield of paddy in a district for any particular year, but I think that in a fairly good year the harvests of the Colombo District give about 800,000 bushels of paddy, or, say, 400,000 bushels of rice. When it is remembered that the population of the Colombo District, excluding all those who live within the Municipal limits of

Colombo, is now nearly 300,000, and that the average monthly consumption by an adult is half a bushel of rice, it is evident how inadequate is the local yield of rice to meet the wants even of the rural population.

For some years past the paddy crops have been fairly good, and all food stuffs cheap. The price of paddy averages throughout the district Re. 1 a bushel, or a little more, and imported rice is always obtainable at from Rs. 2·50 a bushel near Colombo to Rs 3·50 a bushel in the more distant markets.

Besides rice, which is reckoned the staple food, various kinds of yams and sweet potatoes, cassawa, jak-fruit, bread-fruit, and plaintains, at certain times in the year, are largely used, and in some of the poorer and more remote villages absolutely take the place of rice for a month or two. There is, in addition, the usual variety of hill grains, but these in the Colombo District are limited in quantity, and this is a matter for congratulation, not only because this form of cultivation is exhausting to the soil and wasteful in its operation, but the necessary conclusion is, that the villagers have found a more profitable use for their gardens and high lands than by directly swelling their food supply by fine grain cultivation.

The cultivation of fruit and vegetables has largely increased of late years, and many hundreds of acres of chena land have been planted with cocoanut. The cocoanut, which flourishes best in the maritime districts of the Province, also constitutes a valuable addition to the food supply of the inhabitants, and its cultivation seems not to be subject to so many vicissitudes as the other staple products of the Island.

Fish.—There are thousands of the Fisher caste in the seabord villages who supply their homes and the markets with salt-water fish, of which a great variety is eaten by all classes and castes, and some is carried "fresh" to villages twenty and twenty-five miles from the sea. Fishermen have told me that the supply of fish is falling off, that they have now to go far out to sea for a haul, whilst a few years since they could fill their boats within sight of land. The salting and drying of fish for food has been attracting notice of late years, but no great advance seems to have been made in this industry. Large quantities of salt and dried fish are, however, annually imported, and form a great addition to the food supply of the people.

Fresh-water fish are very plentiful: in fact, the way in which every pool after a shower teems with animal life is most marvellous. The rivers swarm with varieties of fish: some have been known up to twelve pounds in weight, but there are many kinds which the natives will not eat, and most of the river fish are, I think, unwholesome.

Flesh.—Meat (consisting of beef, mutton, goat's flesh, and pork) is now a regular article of diet with those Sinhalese who can afford it. A large number of cattle, sheep, and goats are imported, but the supply is barely sufficient, and cattle-stealing continues to be the national crime, and as it pays, it is, I regret to say, on the increase.

Fowls, &c.—The supply of fowls, eggs, fruit, and vegetables shows no sign of failing, although an enormous quantity must now be consumed yearly. The demand is in part met by importation of fowls, ducks, turkeys, potatoes, onions, &c., from India. Fruit is now beginning to be imported from Australia—apples, pears, and grapes being frequently on sale—whilst pheasants, partridges, and other game are brought in ice from China. These, however, at present form the luxuries of the richer classes.

I am glad to note that the calling of so many passenger steamers at the port of Colombo has given an impetus to the cultivation of garden produce, and fruit and vegetables of all kinds and varieties are now cultivated much more generally and at a greater distance around Colombo than formerly.

It will be seen, therefore, that a great variety of diet is available in all but the poorest districts; and with ordinary industry a villager can always have enough food to enable him to live well.

II.—LEGISLATION.

For some years past the Government has been urged, in the cause of good morals and of public education, to legislate on the administration of Buddhist Temporalities.

The next matter in which I consider legislation necessary—and indeed more urgently called for than for the administration of Buddhist Temporalities—is the payment of village headmen. On my representation some years ago clause 13 was introduced into the Ordinance No. 34 of 1884, to enable the inhabitants of any sub-division of a village community, with the approval of the Governor and Executive Council, to impose a tax for the payment of their own police headmen. Owing to certain legal difficulties presented by the procedure under the principal Ordinance this provision has been a dead letter. It is only necessary, I believe, to have this amended in order to introduce, and to work satisfactorily, a similar system throughout the Island.

The Thoroughfares Ordinance, in my opinion, requires immediate revision.

The question of a revision of the laws relating to Arrack and Toddy Revenue came before the Government in 1887, and a Special Committee of seven members of the Legislative Council was appointed to consider and report on the question. The report, signed by a majority of five of the members, contained the following paragraphs:—

> The Government Agent of the Western Province has laid before the Committee certain suggestions the carrying out of which would, in his opinion, ensure the collection of nearly as much revenue from the arrack duty as at present, whilst they would reduce the sum for which the Government have, under existing arrangements, to look to the renter. The Committee have not, however, gone very fully into the Government Agent's proposals, and do not discuss them here, because they appear to them to contemplate merely modifications of the renting system and not to involve an entire change in the method of collecting the arrack revenue.
>
> The Committee are of opinion that if a small Standing Committee, with a Secretary to assist them in their labours, were appointed by Government to collect information as suggested by the Government Agent of the Western Province in his memorandum dated May 29, 1887, information of a more reliable nature than that which has been at the disposal of the Committee might be obtainable, and they recommend this suggestion to the consideration of Government.

I regret that no steps were taken to appoint a Sub-Committee, as recommended, in order to obtain the information which is so necessary to enable the Government to legislate on this important subject. (See appendix A.) It is true that a short Ordinance (No. 19 of 1887) was passed to give

effect to certain recommendations of the Committee, but as further legislation must take place shortly, it is of the utmost importance that the Government should acquire that further information, the want of which the Sub-Committee felt to be so inconvenient. I annex a copy of my memoranda referred to in the above extract from the report. The memoranda of the Hon. the Auditor-General and of the Government Agent of the Northern Province, from whose conclusions I am constrained to differ, are published in the Sessional Paper L. of 1886. The report of the Sub-Committee, dated July 4, 1887, is published in Sessional Paper LVI. of 1886.

I would place for consideration amongst desirable legislative measures (with, however, but little hope of seeing the wish fulfilled) a Bill for introducing an acreable tax upon lands of every description throughout the Colony and for the repeal of the grain tax. I believe that such a tax might be introduced in a way that would give satisfaction to all interests, whilst at the same time it would relieve the rice grower of what is undoubtedly a heavy tax on his industry. For many years the question of a land tax has been mentioned, but the consideration of it has never been thoroughly taken up. A very excellent paper was written on the subject by Sir Emerson Tennent (Colonial Secretary of Ceylon) when reporting on the Finance and Commerce of the Island some forty years ago, and the arguments which were used then in favour of such a measure would apply with increased force to-day.

There are several minor Ordinances and small amendments of important Ordinances which require attention: most of these are alluded to by my Assistants, and require no special reference.

III.—PUBLIC WORKS.

In compliance with instructions to include in this list not only works which are immediately practicable, but those which should be kept in view and aimed at in the future, I have compiled a rather long list, and have divided it according to Districts:—

Colombo District.

1. Northern arm to Breakwater and dock at Colombo.
2. A system of tramways in the City of Colombo and of light railways throughout the suburbs.
3. A railway station at Galahiṭiyáwa (between Mahara and Henaratgoḍa) and a branch line to Negombo.
4. A railway station at Kaṭukurunda between Moraṭuwa and Pánaduré.
5. The improvement of the navigation of the Kęlani-gaṇga.
6. A bridge over the Kęlani-gaṇga instead of the bridge-of-boats.
7. New bridges at Digarolla, Daṇḍugama, and Kospalankissa.
8. Rebuilding of reservoir for Colombo town water supply and filter beds for Labugama reservoir.
9. The drainage of the Cinnamon Gardens by the opening of an outlet near the 2nd mile-post on the Galle road, and by the widening of the Kirillaponé canal.
10. The drainage of Crown lands near the Government Factory and kachchéri.

Negombo.

1. A water supply.
2. A light railway connecting Negombo with Colombo.
3. The clearing out of the Negombo and Colombo canal.
4. A new bridge at Tóppu, or rather reconstruction of the old bridge.
5. A bridge at Sidúwa.

Kalutara.

1. The extension of the railway from Kalutara to Bentoṭa.
2. A bridge at Bolgoḍa on the road to Horana.
3. The drainage of paddy lands and improvement of Talpiṭiya outlet.
4. The construction of a Police Court in Kalutara.
5. The opening of a road from Baduréliya in Pasdun kóralé to the Kukulu kóralé.
6. The opening of "Murray's trace" from Nęboḍa to Matugama.
7. The clearing of the Nikaṭu-ęla and Hínaṭiyaṇgala-ęla.
8. The improvement of the navigation of the Kalu-gaṇga.

Kęgalla.

1. A light railway to connect the Kęlani Valley district with Colombo, either by the Main line or by an independent line through the Héwágam kóralé and Kóṭṭé to Colombo.
2. Telegraphic communication between Polgahawela and Kęgalla.
3. The completion of the road from Ruwanwęlla to Attanagalla.
4. A new bridge at Ruwanwęlla over the Gurugoḍa-oya.
5. The connection of the Bulatkohopiṭiya road with the Dolosbáge road.
6. The connection of the Aranáyaka road with the Dolosbáge road.
7. The improvement of the navigation of Kęlani-gaṇga and Sitáwaka-gaṇga.
8. The enlargement of the Kęgalla kachchéri and the construction of a Land Registrar's office. (For further works see Assistant Government Agent's list.)

Ratnapura.

1. Light railway to connect the District with Colombo *viâ* Avisáwélla, the Héwágam kóralé, and Kóṭṭé.
2. A cart road to the Horton Plains from the nearest point of the line about to be constructed to Haputalé.
3. Good roads in the Aṭakalan and Kolonná kóralés.
4. A road through the Kukulu kóralé to connect with the Kalutara District.
5. A good ferry or bridge at Kurugammódara.
6. A good system of minor irrigation works in the Kolonná and Aṭakalan kóralés.

Colombo.

1. A northern arm to the Colombo Breakwater is a work I have systematically advocated for many years. In connection with this I am glad to note that two other works, which for years have (with the northern arm) stood at the head of my list, are now being undertaken, viz., the Mutwal foreshore reclamation scheme and the filling up of the Fort canal.

2. A system of tramways for the City of Colombo, which was on the point of being carried out at the end of 1883 but was abandoned in 1884, is now again under discussion. That a good system of tramways would benefit the city traffic and be an immense convenience to the very large population of Colombo there can be no doubt.

The suburbs of Colombo would be greatly benefited by a proper system of light railroads. The Salpiti kóralé around Colombo contains a population of about 80,000, several villages having 2,000 persons in each. A large quantity of fruit and vegetable is grown and daily brought in to Colombo, and a light railway, managed for the purpose of assisting this description of traffic, would be an immense boon and I believe would yield a reasonable return.

3. A railway station is much wanted at Galahiṭiyáwa (between Maḥara and Henaratgoḍa), at which point a large traffic may be expected from the population about Já-ela, Ekala, &c., and indeed from all points south of Negombo. A light rail to Negombo, if the route were well selected, would certainly pay well.

4. A small station is also wanted on the railway line between Moraṭuwa and Pánaduré, where there are several large villages. The success which has attended the opening of a station at Uyana (called Lunáwa) should induce the Railway authorities to give more accommodation to the travelling public along this line.

5. The improvement of the navigation of the Kelani-gaṇga is a work which has long been thought of, and I presume is only deferred because it is intended to give good railway communication instead to the Avisáwélla and Kelani Valley districts.

6. A bridge over the Kelani in place of the bridge-of-boats was once sanctioned and a vote proposed to the Legislative Council. Want of revenue, however, prevented the work being carried out. It seems strange that a city of the size and importance of Colombo should have one of its most important approaches over so antiquated a contrivance as a bridge-of-boats. The swarms of foot passengers and carts which now daily pass over it would surely justify a more modern viaduct.

7. New bridges are also required in the Colombo District at Digarolla (between Moraṭuwa and Pánaduré), at Dandugama (between Colombo and Negombo), and at Kospalankissa, where a large population east of Moraṭuwa passes daily to obtain access to the railway.

8. The rebuilding of the Máligákanda town reservoir is, in my opinion, a matter which should not be delayed an hour longer than is absolutely necessary. Colombo is now almost entirely dependent for its water supply on the new waterworks. Wells have been abandoned and filled up, and the lake water is useful only for washing purposes. The serious consequences, therefore, to the inhabitants and the shipping of a stoppage of the water supply for a few days can hardly be overrated. If a reservoir capable of holding one-fourth of the original reservoir were available, it would be something; and indeed it is questionable, looking to what has happened, whether it would not be better to reduce the capacity of the old reservoir and to build a second, and even a third, of more moderate dimensions in some other parts of the town.

9. The drainage of the Cinnamon Gardens by the opening of an outlet near the 2nd milepost on the Galle road and the widening and proper levelling of the bed of the Kirillaponé canal are works which I have long advocated, and which, as Chairman of the Municipal Council, I had hoped many years ago to get the Government to carry out. This and the two next mentioned works were thus noticed in my Administration Report for 1883:—

> The drainage of the Cinnamon Gardens by a canal cut between the 2nd and 3rd mileposts on the Galle road, the entrance to the lake by the Hunupiṭiya canal being blocked up and the water regulated by a sluice. This work was also discussed by the Municipal Council last year, but it was thought that as the Government kept the Cinnamon Gardens in its own hands and obtained revenue from them, it should undertake the drainage of these lands. This is a very important work and deserving of early attention.
>
> *Widening of the Kirillaponé canal.*—This is also a drainage work and one of great importance.
>
> *Drainage of Crown Land.*—There is a large block of Crown land between the Factory premises, the kachchéri, and Cramer's lane, and this, I think, might be drained and turned into a most valuable property I think that a portion of it should be sold to pay the cost, and the rest of the land retained as a public recreation ground. I do not think that this would be a very expensive work.

All the above works are works of great importance, and though noted last are by no means the least pressing of the public works which I wish to see executed this year.

Negombo.

1. The water supply of the town of Negombo has been reported on by Mr. Burnett, the Resident Engineer of the Colombo Waterworks, and though I do not anticipate that his somewhat large scheme is likely to be taken up this year, yet I think it should not be lost sight of. The report of Mr. Burnett is given in appendix B.

2. I have already alluded to the expediency of connecting Negombo and Colombo by a light railway in my notes on works in the Colombo District.

3. The Negombo-Colombo canal is reported to be in very bad order. I believe it requires a large vote to put it into thorough good order. The road also has been in bad order during the year. Probably both means of communication would require far less expenditure if a railway were constructed.

4. The Tóppu bridge was partially washed away in 1886, and although this work was inserted in the Estimates of 1887 the state of the revenue did not allow of a vote being taken.

5. The Síduwá bridge was washed away some years ago, and should be rebuilt as soon as funds are available.

Kalutara.

1. The extension of the railway from Kalutara to Bentoṭa it is hoped is now sanctioned. It has been long and anxiously waited for, and it is universally admitted that this extension would give a good return.

2. A bridge over the Bolgoḍa lake, on the road from Pánaduré to Nambapána, at a narrow point now crossed by a ferry boat, has been advocated for some years, and now that the Pánaduré to Ratnapura road has been taken in hand by the Government I trust to see this bridge constructed in the course of the year.

3. I can only repeat what I wrote in 1883 on this subject, as follows :—

The improvement and widening of the Talpitiya Outlet.—This scheme for draining the flood waters of the Bolgoḍa lake is a very good one, but is only partially successful owing to the imperfect manner in which the work has been carried out. It has been a subject of perpetual complaint by the people. I am glad to say that the Public Works Department agree in thinking that the proposed improvement should be carried out.

4. A permanent Police Court building is urgently wanted at Kalutara. I would call attention to what I wrote on this subject in my Administration Report for 1884.

5. The opening of a road from Baduréliya to Kukulu kóralé would undoubtedly prove a work of great public utility.

6. The opening of "Murray's trace" is another road which is much wanted in the Kalutara District. This is a road close to which a large extent of land was sold last year for over Rs. 60,000, and it would be only just to spend a portion of that revenue on this road; but I admit I think it would be wiser policy in future to open roads first and to sell the land afterwards, as the existence of a good road will always add more to the value of a lot than the promise (however certain its fulfilment) of the road being hereafter made.

7. These works are under consideration of the Provincial and Central Irrigation Boards.

8. This is a work so long talked of and written about that I despair of seeing it undertaken. I however continue to insert it in my "list of works."

Kégalla.

The several works noted by me are all referred to by the Assistant Government Agent in his report, and it is unnecessary for me to say more regarding each. I have placed them in the order in which their importance commends them to me, except that I think No. 8 the (enlargement of the kachchéri and the construction of a Land Registrar's office) is very urgent and more pressing than some of the larger works.

Ratnapura.

1. Light railway to Ratnapura *viâ* Avisáwélla. The advantages of this line were well sketched by Mr. Wace in his Administration Report for 1885, and I would invite attention to that report.

2. Now that the sanction of the Home Government has been obtained to the extension of the railway to Uva, it is confidently hoped that advantage will be taken of it to open up the Horton plains as a sanitarium, not only for the civil and military population of Ceylon, but for Europeans from India seeking a complete change of climate without a very long journey. The climate of the Horton Plains is drier and more bracing than that of Nuwara Eliya, and though the latter has at present a very great start with its kachchéri, courts, bazaars, banks, hotels, &c., yet I believe that were a railway station placed so that a cart road of six or seven miles would take one to the Horton Plains, that place would in a very few years rival Nuwara Eliya. At my recent visit to the plains I directed that a trial road trace should be opened, and I trust that if it can be shown that a cart road at a fair gradient can be made within six or seven miles, the Government will order its construction.

3. It is, I think, of the utmost importance that a few good cart roads should be opened up through the Aṭakalan and Kolonná kóralés. A good cart road connecting the Taṇgalla and Mátara Districts with Sabaragamuwa, which would pass through the Bintenna of the Kolonná kóralé, would bring traffic and create markets for the produce of the country. Population would spring up along the roadsides and spread to the villages, and then as a demand for land was created large irrigation works might be useful to enable a larger extent of land to be cultivated. One of the great complaints of the people now is that there is no sale for paddy, which fetches only 50c. or so a bushel. This is all bought up by one rich landlord, who then supplies it at Re. 1·25 or Re. 1·50 per bushel to the planters at Rakwána.

4. A good road through the Kukulu kóralé connecting it with the Kalutara District is also a great want, but it should be continued from the Kalutara end and worked gradually up to Ratnapura.

5. The road from Ratnapura to Nambapána has this year been taken in hand, and when completed a bridge or an improved ferry must be established at Kurugammódara; but before the actual site for a bridge is selected I think the road from Ratnapura to Kurugammódara should be retraced, for the gradients in some parts are far steeper than should exist on any ordinary cart road.

6. A good system of minor irrigation works in the Kolonná and Aṭakalan kóralés. This I think a most urgent want, and for the purpose a complete and thorough survey of the kóralé, or at least of some parts of it, is much wanted. Votes have been taken for this purpose, and Mr. Gunn, a very able officer of the Public Works Department, was employed in the work.

The Provincial Irrigation Board is most anxious to consider the best means of spending some Rs. 10,000 or Rs. 20,000 a year annually on small works in the Kolonná kóralé, but no plans of the districts or estimates of works can be procured. The Board is convinced that there are many places in which such an expenditure would be of the highest advantage. I would strongly advise that a large force of native surveyors be sent to complete the surveys and plans commenced by Mr. Gunn.

IV.—ADMINISTRATIVE MEASURES.

The administrative measures that have most occupied my attention during the year, and the working of which has taken up a large portion of my time, have been the Thoroughfares Ordinance, the Forest Ordinance, the Irrigation Ordinance, and the Grain Tax Ordinance; whilst of those in contemplation, perhaps the one which occupies my thoughts most after the question of "How to pay the Village Headmen?" is the proposed Ordinance on Buddhist Temporalities, which is capable

of working great good or much evil according to the lines on which it is drawn; and of those not contemplated, so far as I know, but which I would gladly see advanced to that stage, is a Bill to introduce a land tax for the taxation of all cultivated and uncultivated land, and for the reduction of the grain tax.

The Thoroughfares Ordinance, I think, has been greatly improved in its working by its amendment in 1884. I only wish that it had been found possible to extend the principle of the original law, which was to place the disposal of the moneys collected by this tax as much as possible in the hands of the committees elected by the people who paid the tax, and to ensure that the money collected should be spent according to their wishes on roads in the neighbourhood of those who paid it.

The Forest Ordinance will, I fear, soon require amendment. Some of its provisions are very stringent, and if not very carefully worked it may become not merely an inconvenient, but an oppressive law.

There can, however, be no doubt that if properly and fairly worked, and if a reasonable amount of money be voted annually, not only will great advantages accrue to the public both in the present and the future, but the revenue from a proper management of Crown reserves in timber, firewood, and forest products will greatly exceed the annual expenditure. The working of the Forest Department in the Western Province during the year 1887 shows an excess of revenue over expenditure of Rs. 11,949·32 on an expenditure of about Rs. 80,000.

The Irrigation Ordinance.—This Ordinance, which was passed in 1886 during my absence in England, contains a provision which appears to me to press very unjustly on the Western Province. It is that which takes one-fourth of the grain tax paid by the people of this Province for irrigation works elsewhere, and does not provide that the money should be spent within the limits of the Province and District in which it is paid.

Irrigation works in this Province, and indeed throughout the Island, are of two distinct classes: one consisting of those which provide for the irrigation of large tracts of land at present uncultivated, with a view to attract population and to create villages; and the second, those of more humble works which go to improve existing means of irrigation, to enable a present population to cultivate a sufficiency of land for its own use and sustenance, and to ensure to the cultivator an ample and certain return for the labour he may bestow on the soil. Works of the first class are mainly dependent on votes of the Legislature, and should, of course, be fully discussed on careful estimates and plans before sanction. Repayment from such works cannot be looked for for many years, and he would be a rash man who in Ceylon would predict the failure or success of any such work. Those which succeed are pointed to, and properly so, as illustrating the propriety of further expenditure. The failures are buried and forgotten, and official reports name them no more.

But it is not with these larger works that the Irrigation Boards properly deal—it is with the smaller works; and it is with regard to the expenditure of public money on these that I think some recognised system should be laid down and observed. There can be no doubt that an immense deal of good may be done by a judicious expenditure of money in forming or reforming small tanks, providing them with sluices, building anicuts, and clearing channels. In the Sabaragamuwa District in 1870 to 1872, and in the North-Western Province in 1876 and 1877, I can testify to a large amount of good having been done by Government aid judiciously bestowed, and I have no doubt that much more remains to be done, not only throughout the Island, but in the Western Province, and especially in Sabaragamuwa.

The policy of Sir Hercules Robinson's Government was only to undertake village works the cost of which the people were prepared to repay in ten annual instalments, and the result was that a large amount of labour was given by the people in order to reduce the cost and subsequent payment as much as possible. The terms were, however, found to be somewhat severe, and Sir William Gregory's Government made the test to be the willingness of the people to pay a water-rate of Re. 1 a year per acre.

In my humble opinion no work should be undertaken which will not stand this test, and I need hardly say there are many works which should be rejected even if the villagers be prepared to pay this amount.

As a general rule, an acre of land is sown with two and a half bushels of seed, the value of which seed may be put at Rs. 2. Now, is any expenditure worth undertaking which will not enable a man to get back at least the value of his seed paddy? If a man's field now gives him five-fold, is anything but a very very trifling expenditure justifiable if it will not secure him hereafter six-fold instead of five—that is, an extra two and a half bushels of paddy per acre? And yet I know of officers who will not hesitate to recommend an expenditure of Rs. 50 or Rs. 100 per acre on land the owner of which will not agree to pay Re. 1 per acre as water-rate, and an expenditure of Rs. 200 per acre on land which, when the money is spent on it, will not be worth, and could not be sold for, one-half of the money thrown into it. An excuse very frequently given is that in recommending a work it was not known that it would cost so much, but this only shows what care should be taken that proper estimates and proper designs are made by duly qualified officers before a work is undertaken.

A series of small works in each village to which the people themselves would contribute labour—such as have been and are being carried out in the North-Western Province—are what, in my opinion, are required in the Kolonná and Aṭakalan kóralés, and it is on such works that the grain tax paid by the people might properly be expended.

Public officers, I notice, often claim a financial success for irrigation works by declaring that the yield of paddy has wonderfully increased, and that the people have reaped large crops. But the best test of this is, To what extent has the value of the tythe increased? Let that be multiplied by ten, and the financial benefit to the people will be ascertained. That there are other benefits and great benefits, no one will deny; but when good financial results are claimed they should be subjected to some practical and not theoretical test.

The Grain Tax Ordinance is dealt with under a separate head.

V.—IMPROVEMENT OF THE PROVINCE AND ITS DISTRICTS.

The plans which I have most at heart for the improvement of the Province are, I think, shown in former parts of this report, and may be briefly summarised thus:—

A thorough and complete land settlement between the Crown and private parties. Every

inducement given to European settlers to invest capital in agricultural pursuits, especially in some of the less known and less opened out districts. The opening out of the country by means of good main and minor roads, and by the immediate introduction and extensive use of light railways, tramways, and other civilised means of communication. The proper payment of headmen. The more general employment of natives of all classes, without distinction of race or caste, in administrative and judicial appointments in the Colony. The abolition, as far as posssible, of service tenures without injustice to landlords, and the education of the people, especially in the Kandyan Districts of the Province. The introduction of a regulated system of native village police and the reformation of our prison system by insisting on hard, deterrent work within the walls of a jail.

VI.—THE WORKING OF THE GRAIN TAX ORDINANCE.

The Grain Tax Ordinance has now been in operation for seven years in nearly all the Districts of the Western Province, and the time has arrived for a revision of the commutation. I am unable to give the results in all the Districts, but I append certain returns, and I have no hesitation in declaring that the Ordinance has worked most successfully during the whole seven years in all the Districts (except in Sabaragamuwa, which I will notice presently), and that its introduction has been of the greatest benefit to the people :—

[*For Table I. see next page.*]

II.—Grain Tax, Colombo.

Korálé.	Total Grain Tax as assessed.					Annual Commutation.					Crop Commutation.				
	Extent.			Rs.	c.	Extent.			Rs.	c.	Extent.			Rs.	c.
	A.	R.	P.			A.	R.	P.			A.	R.	P.		
First Commutation Term, 1880–86.															
Siyané east ...	9,480	1	16	14,819	96	9,480	1	16	14,819	96	—			—	
Siyané west ...	16,703	2	30	23,539	47	16,703	2	30	23,539	47	—			—	
Salpiṭi ...	9,189	0	36	13,961	56	9,189	0	36	13,961	56	—			—	
Héwágam ...	13,094	0	22¼	16,351	47	13,027	3	8⅝	16,244	47	66	1	13½	107	0
Alutkúru south ...	6,768	0	19⅜	9,985	90	6,044	0	19⅜	9,173	55	724	0	0	812	35
Ambatalenpahala ...	982	1	0	659	95	982	1	0	659	95	—			—	
Gravets of Colombo ...	45	1	20	63	49	—			—		45	1	20	63	49
Total...	56,263	0	23$\frac{11}{24}$	79,381	80	55,427	1	30$\frac{5}{24}$	78,398	96	835	2	33½	982	84
Second Commutation, commencing 1887–88.															
Siyané east ...	9,855	3	15	15,267	14	9,718	3	35	15,118	98½	136	3	20	148	15½
Siyané west ...	16,912	1	0	23,357	50	16,622	2	20	23,015	14	289	2	20	342	36
Salpiṭi	9,608	2	22	13,668	14	9,330	0	12½	13,357	85	278	2	10	310	29
Héwágam ...	12,911	2	5	15,895	74	12,069	1	5	14,593	60	842	1	0	1,302	14
Alutkúru south ...	7,097	2	17	9,926	38	6,284	0	2	8,895	23	813	2	15	1,031	15
Ambatalenpahala ...	976	2	10	895	57	499	0	10	282	79	477	2	0	612	78
Gravets of Colombo* ...	45	1	20	63	49	—			—		45	1	20	63	49
Total...	57,407	3	9½	79,073	96	54,524	0	4½	75,263	59½	2,883	3	5	3,810	36½

* Not recommuted yet.

I.—Grain Tax Recoveries in the Colombo District in 1887.

Kóralé.	Tax due.	Amount recovered without Sale.	Amount recovered by Sale.	Exemptions on account of Crop Commutation, Fields uncultivated, &c.	Reductions on account of Redemptions.	Other reductions.	Lands sold to Private Parties.				Lands purchased by the Crown.		
							No. of Lands.	Extent.	Tax due.	Amount of Sale.	No. of Lands.	Extent.	Amount.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.		A. R. P.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.		A. R. P.	Rs. c.
Siyané east	15,267 14	15,115 85	28 68	115 74	1 36	—	23	31 1 20	23 18	84 0	3	1 1 0	5 50
Siyané west	23,357 50	23,068 4	—	282 79	6 45	0 22*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Salpiṭi	13,668 14	13,222 38	52 97	299 64	8 58	—	8	15 3 0	24 80	95 75	13	19 0 0	28 17†
Héwágam	15,895 74	14,485 77	9 0	1,293 74	7 72	99 51‡	1	4 2 0	9 0	21 0	—	—	—
Alutkúru south	9,985 90	9,231 60	22 80	614 50	117 0	—	11	6 1 0	22 80	36 20	—	—	—
Ambatalenpahala	895 57	163 89	43 66	602 25	—	43 61§	1	3 0 0	1 50	2 50	19	48 3 0	42 16
Gravets of Colombo	63 49	—	—	63 49	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	79,133 48	75,287 53	157 11	3,272 15	141 11	143 34	44	60 3 20	81 28	239 45	35	69 0 0	75 83

* Reduced upon Government authority.

† This is exclusive of four lands in extent 10 acres 2 roods. Tax, Rs. 28·20, transferred back to original owners on payment of tax and costs.

‡ A sum of Rs. 3·57 was recovered and credited at Ratnapura on account of Labugama fields.

§ Amount of tax on lands purchased by the Crown in 1886, included in the revised Register. but uncultivated for 1887:—Hewágam kóralé, Rs. 99·51 ; Ambatalenpahala, Rs. 43·61.

III.—Grain Tax compared between the First Assessment and the Revision.

Kóralé.	Date of First Commutation.	Extent.	Tax due.	Rate per Acre.	Date of Second Commutation.	Extent.	Tax.	Rate per Acre.
Colombo.		A. R. P.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.		A. R. P.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Siyané east ...	1879	9,480 1 16	14,819 96	1 56	1886	9,855 3 15	15,267 14	1 55
Siyané west ...	1880	16,703 2 30	23,539 47	1 40	1886	16,912 1 0	23,357 50	1 37
Salpiṭi ...	1880	9,189 0 36	13,961 56	1 51	1886	9,608 2 22½	13,668 14	1 42
Héwágam ...	1880	13,094 0 22	16,351 47	1 24	1886	12,911 2 5	15,895 74	1 22
Alutkúru south ...	1880	6,768 0 19	9,985 90	1 47	1887	7,097 2 17	9,926 38	1 39
Ambatalenpahala ...	1880	982 1 0	659 95	0 67	1886	976 2 10	895 57	0 91
Gravets of Colombo	1884	45 1 20	63 49	1 39	Not re-assessed as yet	45 1 20	63 49	1 39
		56,263 0 23	79,381 80	1 40		57,407 3 9½	79,073 96	1 35
Ratnapura.								
Kuruwiṭi ...	1881	4,375 0 39	7,296 71	1 66	1888	5,064 1 2	7,921 20	1 56
Nawadun ...	1882	4,303 2 14	6,509 90	1 51	Re-assessment now in progress.			
Kukulu ...	1882	1,657 3 5	1,611 53	0 97				
Aṭakalan ...	1882	2,758 1 4	4,237 23	1 53				
Kolonná ...	1882	2,513 0 8	4,014 97	1 59				
Męda ...	1882	4,443 3 14	6,926 25	1 55				
Kadawata ...	1882	3,897 3 0	5,786 74	1 48				
		23,949 2 4	36,383 33	1 52				
Kégalla.								
Galboḍa ...	1882	3,647 3 5	8,209 67	2 25	Re-assessment now in progress.			
Kinigoḍa ...	1882	3,367 0 5	6,958 4	2 6				
Beligal ...	1882	5,663 0 0	13,279 75	2 34				
Paranakúru ...	1882	5,047 2 30	10,746 11	2 12				
Dehigampal ...	1882	1,522 3 20	2,071 22	1 36				
Panawal ...	1882	967 2 0	1,073 3	1 10				
Atulugam ...	1882	667 0 20	838 25	1 25				
Lower Bulatgama ...	1882	535 1 20	1,010 39	1 88				
		21,418 1 20	44,186 46	1 79				
Kalutara.								
Kalutara ...	1880	8,848 0 0	13,110 15	1 48	1887	8,815 0 0	12,733 51	1 44
Rayigam	1881	18,915 0 0	31,138 29	1 64	Not yet recommuted.			
Pasdun ...	1881	20,340 0 0	27,613 35	1 35				
		48,103 0 0	71,861 79	1 49				
Negombo.								
Hápiṭigam ...	1880	4,416 3 32	14,351 75	3 24	1887	4,418 3 16	13,970 13	3 16
Alutkúru north ...	1881	7,181 0 1	16,572 94	2 31	1888	7,883 3 0	17,235 13	2 2
		11,597 3 33	30,924 69	2 66		12,302 2 16	31,205 26	2 59

IV.—Redemption of Tax above a Tithe in the Colombo District, 1880–86.

Kóralé.	No. of Lands.	Extent.	Redemption Value.	Tax at Original Rate.	One-tenth reduced Rate.	Loss to Revenue.
		A. R. P.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Siyané east ...	26	37 2 20	597 42	88 61	28 66	59 95
Siyané west ..	113	142 0 0	1,939 68	318 42	113 28	205 14
Salpiṭi ...	42	67 2 20	1,355 16	190 62	55 25	135 37
Héwágam ...	50	68 1 20	1,550 30	206 49	50 4	156 45
Alutkúru south ...	12	12 0 0	397 60	50 90	11 14	39 76
Ambatalenpahala ...	3	4 0 0	89 92	11 24	2 25	8 99
Total...	246	331 3 20	5,930 8	866 28	260 62	605 66

V.—Lands newly asweddumised during the Term 1880–86, of which due notice was given at the Kachchéri.

Kóralé.	No. of Lands.	Extent. A.	R.	P.
Siyané east ...	82	223	3	24
Siyané west	206	252	0	14
Salpiṭi ...	44	52	3	17
Héwágam ...	117	211	0	5
Alutkúru south	46	211	0	31
Ambatalenpahala	6	11	1	0
Gravets of Colombo	—	—		
Lands asweddumised without notice, ascertained by Grain Commissioner	—	182	1	14 12/16
		1,144	2	25 12/16

Return No. I. shows the working of the Ordinance in the Colombo District. It will be seen that out of Rs. 75,472 due as tax in 1887 only Rs. 157 was recovered by the sale of fields.

Returns Nos. II. and III. show the comparison between the last assessment and the present. This is very satisfactory, as proving that a large extent of new land has been opened in all the Districts since the first commutation, and this I attribute entirely to the removal of the restrictions of the renting system. It will be seen that in the Colombo District the extent of lands commuted has increased from 56,263 acres to 57,362 acres, whilst the amount levied has decreased from Rs. 79,381 to Rs. 79,073. This is mainly due to a satisfactory cause, viz., that the owners of 332 acres of land have redeemed the excess of tax above one-tenth (*vide* return No. IV.), and now pay a reduced tax of Rs. 260 instead of Rs. 866.

In Negombo the number of acres cultivated has increased from 11,598 acres to 12,302 acres, and the value of tax from Rs. 30,924 to Rs. 31,205, whilst even in the Kuruwiṭi kóralé of the Ratnapura District the extent has risen from 4,375 acres to 5,064 acres, and the value from Rs. 7,296 to Rs. 7,921. I regret, however, for the sake of the people, to find that, in the Colombo District, whereas only 835 acres went in for crop commutation in 1880, 2,883 acres have been induced to do so this year.

To those who have had no experience of the old system of farming the rents—of the fearful hardships to which the mass of the people were subjected, first by assessors, then by renters—of the extortion practised—of the cases in court—and of the consequent quarrels and ofttimes crimes—it is difficult to describe the immense relief which a regular and liberal commutation of the tax has conferred. The cases of individual hardship which now and again occur, and which would occur in every system of taxation, are made the most of, forgetting that, that for every one person who suffers now hundreds suffered before, and that whilst individual cases of hardship may be redressed no means were ever found during a period of nearly sixty years for redressing grievances under the renting system.

It is very difficult to say how much the renters of the paddy tax took from the people over and above the amounts they paid to Government. Most people think that it was over thirty to forty per cent., and this is not very much, when it is remembered that the renters bought the crops and paid cash for them before they were ripe, and that they had all the trouble and expense of collecting the grain in small quantities all over the country, or its value in small sums of money.

The worst of the system was that headmen and wealthy men, who would not submit to extortion, got off fairly well, and the persons whom the renter had to "squeeze" were the poorer classes and those least able to defend themselves. Some idea may be obtained of the value of the recoveries made by the renters from the following statement taken from a report by one who was my Assistant a few years back.

After describing the mal-practices of the renters, he says that it occurred to him to give the people relief by selling the rents in very small lots, so as to enable the villagers to buy for themselves, or amongst themselves, and so get rid of the renter; and he was in hopes that the total of these smaller purchases would exceed the amount usually recovered from the renter. And he was not disappointed. Out of 1,990 rents 1,318, or say two-thirds, were sold to the villagers, whilst the revenue sprang from Rs. 56,129 to Rs. 126,412. My Assistant adds:—"Regulated in this manner I consider the renting system to be free from objection. It is entirely in accordance with the ideas of the people, and it is most advantageous to the revenue." Now, one of two things is clear: either the villagers were very great losers by the philanthropic intentions of my Assistant, or the renters were in the habit of recovering over Rs. 126,000 whilst they paid only Rs. 56,000 to Government. But as the amount paid by the renters with a deduction of one-tenth is the basis of commutation, it follows that the villagers of that division now pay to Government only Rs. 51,000 instead of Rs. 126,000, and are not only freed from the renter, but, unless the law is repealed, from any future benevolent philanthropist who might wish to renew the renting system in a manner "free from objection" and "in accordance with the ideas of the people."

This is of course an exaggerated picture drawn, curiously enough, by one who thought the revival of the renting system would be welcome to the people; but, approximately, I think the figures are these:—For every Rs. 1,000 paid to Government by the renter he recovered from the people *at least* Rs. 1,300. Under the present system the Government recovers direct from the people Rs. 900 instead of Rs. 1,000 from a renter; and I cannot suppose that the Siṅhalese people are so peculiarly constituted that they would welcome a return to any system which would call on them to pay *an average* of Rs. 1,300 annually to a renter instead of *an average* of Rs. 900 to Government.

I have no hesitation in saying that the Grain Tax Ordinance is an excellent Ordinance, and one conferring a great benefit on the people of the Western Province.

There are, however, two classes of fields in which the imposition of the tax is a little hard and its recovery somewhat difficult.

The one class consists of half-duty fields, in which the Crown is entitled to half share of the crop. This share is too much when recovered in money, because the Crown does not, like any other proprietor who gives his field in "anda," bear a share in the cost of cultivation. When the rents of these fields were sold, it is well known that the renters seldom got more from them than from one-tenth paying fields; in fact, the Government Agent used to put up fields paying half and one-tenth together, and sell them all round at so much per bushel sowing extent. Now, however, they have to pay in cash one-half of the value of the crop, and this is very heavy on them, especially where a cultivator manures his field with bone dust, &c., and has to pay the whole cost of the manuring himself. A great many fieldowners have redeemed this half or one-fourth share by payment of a lump sum, and have so reduced the tax to one-tenth; and I purpose to recommend the Government now to revise and reduce the terms so as to admit of all fields of this class being redeemed if possible.

The other class of fields are what are known as "taṭṭumaru" fields, or fields cultivated in successive years by different members of a family or by different families. And this brings me to a consideration of the working of the Ordinance in Sabaragamuwa.

The real difficulty in Sabaragamuwa is with "taṭṭumaru" lands. These are lands held in shares between five, ten, and even twenty persons, who, instead of cultivating the shares annually, cultivate the whole land in turn, once in five, ten, or twenty years. Now, whether the lands be registered in shares as in the old commutation, or in one parcel with five, ten, or twenty owners,

as is now being done, the difficulty of recovering the tax will be the same, because the person who has cultivated the field this year *and removed the crop* will not pay the tax, and does not much care if the field be sold. When the Ordinance No. 11 of 1878 was under discussion in Committee, I remember well the Native Members suggested that the tax should be payable before the removal of the crop, but the European Members urged that a man should be allowed to realise the value of his crop before he was called upon to pay the tax, especially as the land was held liable for the payment; but there is a good deal in what the Native Members urged, and there can be no doubt that the Gaṇsabháwa committees or irrigation councils should now be authorised to pass a rule making it penal for any person who is a shareholder and not a sole owner of land to remove the crop, or at any rate the whole crop, until he has paid the tax. If the Gaṇsabháwas have not power to make such a rule, it should be enacted by Ordinance. With such a provision I think all the difficulty of recovering tax from "taṭṭumaru" lands would vanish.

The District of Sabaragamuwa is now being re-assessed by an officer who has great experience of the District, and if the assessment be made on a liberal scale I have no doubt the collection of tax in future years will be as easy and as satisfactory as it is in other Districts of the Province.

VII.—SANITARY CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

On the whole, the sanitary condition of the people during the year has been fairly good There was perhaps a little more fever than usual on the banks of the Maha-oya and Kelani-gaṇga and in the Meḍa and Kadawatu kóralés of Sabaragamuwa. During the year the dispensaries in the Kolonná and Aṭakalan kóralés were of the greatest service to the people, and, indeed, wherever they have been introduced they are of considerable benefit. Dispensaries are urgently wanted at Haṇwella, Minuwangoḍa, Henaratgoḍa, and Véyangoḍa. The Principal Civil Medical Officer, Dr. Kynsey, concurs with me in thinking that the extension of these institutions is very desirable.

This is what I wrote in my report in 1884. I can only again repeat it :—

Outdoor Dispensaries.—It is to be regretted that the system of out-door dispensaries does not receive more encouragement from Government The substantial benefits conferred on the people by these dispensaries cannot be denied, and while admitting the principle that the people should be called on to contribute in some degree towards the maintenance of institutions intended for their benefit, it would, I think, be unwise to impose such a burden as would lead to the abolition of dispensaries and compel the people to have recourse to native instead of European modes of treatment. I believe that the value of the relief afforded to cases of individual suffering more than repays the cost of the establishments, and I cannot but regard dispensaries, which substitute rational methods of treating disease for devil-dances and charms, as most powerful aids to the education and enlightenment of the people.

If, however, it is considered absolutely necessary that a certain amount should be paid by the people, I think it right to point out that the only equitable, and indeed possible, way of recovering the money is, either by charging a small fee from each patient for attendance or by increasing the cost of medicine. It is hopeless to expect that the villagers will continue for any length of time to raise the amount required by subscription, or that they will be able to carry out any private arrangements for collecting the money that they may come to among themselves, as experience shows that unless there be a legal power to compel payments of amounts of subscriptions, such payments will never be made.

VIII.—CRIME.

There has been a great deal said or written about the increase of crime throughout the Island during the year, but, so far as I can judge, the published statistics do not show any alarming increase. I think, however, that in the Western Province, especially in the villages about Colombo, the crimes of gambling and cattle-stealing are on the increase, and the number of burglaries in the city of Colombo seems to be larger than it ought to be.

As regards the best means of checking cattle-stealing. A proper system of cattle registration and branding, such as was introduced by Mr. F. R. Ellis in the North-Western Province in 1876, worked with the system of cattle "sale vouchers," would soon make cattle-stealing so unprofitable as to stop it completely. Practically, Mr. Ellis completely stamped out cattle-stealing in the North-Western Province in 1876, but the system was allowed to fall into disuse. Cattle vouchers are now hardly looked at at the several kachchéries, and cattle thieves are unchecked by them. The fact is, the system requires a little expenditure to start it, and a clerk at each kachchéri permanently employed to examine the vouchers, counterfoils, &c.

The want of discipline amongst prisoners has lately attracted attention to our Prison system, and several suggestions have been put forward for its amendment. Having been Inspector-General of Prisons for some years, I may state that I attribute the want of discipline to the way in which prisoners are now worked in public, alongside and often mixed up with free labour, both male and female. Hard, disagreeable labour, such as stone-breaking, coir-beating, with shot drill for exercise within the walls of a jail, strict silence under the separate (not solitary) system, with as little food as is necessary for health and work, is the proper treatment for the bulk of our prisoners.

I notice that some persons advocate a return to "transportation" as a punishment. The evils of this system were fully discussed when it was abolished some sixteen years ago, and I think it is unlikely that the Home Government, or the colony to which it may be proposed to send the convicts, will consent to re-institute "transportation" as a punishment. I have sometimes wondered why in this age of surprises and novel experiments it has not been suggested to exchange fifty long-sentenced Siṇhalese annually for fifty equally criminal Bengalis in Calcutta. The system would have the effect of transporting the criminals and the advantage of reciprocity between the countries.

A proposal has been made in England to release prisoners convicted for a first time, subject to certain conditions imposed by the court, and this proposal I strongly recommend should receive consideration in Ceylon. Many a man who has never been in jail fears to go there, but when once he has been there he cares little for a second conviction. It often happens, too, that a person who is not really an evil-disposed person or a would-be habitual criminal does something which very properly is punishable by imprisonment. Surely such an offender, if he offends but once in a life-time, might be pardoned, and society would be none the worse. In nine cases out of ten the warning and the escape would be a sufficient deterrent, and good influences would have a better chance on such a person than if he had undergone some months of the demoralising influence of a jail.

But the conviction and the suspension of the punishment would have to be conducted in a way to impress themselves on the criminal and on his associates, and not be mere matters of record at the end of a sentence, thus :—"First conviction, prisoner discharged." The convicted person should be made to feel that he is a criminal sentenced to punishment, which is only suspended with a view to his reformation, and that on any second offence no such clemency would be extended to him.

A ticket-of-leave system has also been proposed and discussed. Such a system as is in force in England might, I think, with slight modifications be introduced into this country: but a ticket-of-leave system or (as it should more properly be called) "a suspension-of-sentence" system, to enable prisoners to be worked as cheap labourers, is a measure which I hope will not even be allowed to reach the stage of consideration. The good-marks system which is in force in our jails might be very easily extended into a ticket-of-leave system.

IX.—CATTLE DISEASE.

There has been no cattle disease worth mentioning during the year, and indeed for some years past cattle appear to have been remarkably free from the hoof-and-mouth disease which some years back made such havoc amongst them.

X.—NEW AREAS OF CULTIVATION.

In various ways a large extent of land has been brought under cultivation during the year. Not only have tea estates been opened in all Districts of the Western Province (except Negombo), but large areas in the Negombo and Colombo Districts have been planted with cocoanut. Paddy cultivation is also on the increase, and the cultivation of fruits and vegetables in the gardens and chenas for miles around Colombo and on the borders of the railway is daily spreading. In fact there can be no doubt that the people of the Western Province are prospering. The population, I believe, is now over one million, and there is labour or employment of some kind for all who will seek it. The Siphalese are taking to tea-leaf picking, and this will soon induce them to try other fields of industry which heretofore they have allowed to be occupied by Tamil immigrants.

POPULATION AND REGISTRATION.

I annex comparative tables showing the Population of the Province as compared with other Provinces, and also that of the several Districts of the Province. Also returns showing the number of births, deaths, and marriages registered since the Census of 1881 :—

I.—Population (Census of 1881).

	Western Province.	Central Province.	Southern Province.	North-Western Province.	North-Central Province.	Northern Province.	Eastern Province.	Total.
Europeans	1,538	2,815	464	87	30	136	367	5,437
Eurasians	10,406	2,945	1,979	588	35	814	1,119	17,886
Siphalese	769,749	357,190	409,428	249,515	53,406	1,379	5,947	1,846,614
Tamils	60,033	233,892	3,855	19,915	4,664	289,481	75,408	687,248
Moormen	49,977	35,363	16,418	21,955	7,412	10,416	43,001	184,542
Malays	3,437	2,913	1,171	837	17	92	428	8,895
Others	2,189	4,432	389	430	582	182	1,513	9,717
Total...	897,329	639,550*	433,704	293,327	66,146	302,500	127,783	2,760,339
Area in square miles	3,456	6,029†	1,980	3,024	4,047	3,171	3,657	25,364
Population per square mile ...	259	106	219	97	16	95	34	108

* Of this number about 165,000 now form the Province of Uva.
† Of this extent about 3,725 square miles now form the Province of Uva.

II.—Population of Western Province (Census of 1881).

	Colombo.	Kalutara.	Negombo.	Kégalla.	Ratnapura.	Total.
Area in square miles ...	542	581	248	651	1,434	3,456
Europeans	1,290	74	38	40	96	1,538
Eurasians	9,242	479	477	82	126	10,406
Siphalese	314,286	149,526	102,050	109,088	94,799	769,749
Tamils	32,194	1,938	11,476	5,407	9,018	60,033
Moormen	27,886	12,873	2,470	5,145	1,603	49,977
Malays	3,068	72	67	138	92	3,437
Others	1,822	59	113	55	140	2,189
Total...	389,788	165,021	116,691	119,955	105,874	897,329

III.

District.	Area in square miles.	Population as per Census on February 17, 1881.	Total Births since the Census up to December 31, 1887.	Total Deaths since the Census up to December 31, 1887.	Population on December 31, 1887.	Total Marriages up to December 31, 1887.
Colombo	542	389,788	59,926	42,961	406,753	16,067
Kalutara	581	165,021	30,567	21,823	173,765	7,235
Negombo	248	116,691	29,402	15,576	130,517	5,389
Kégalla	651	119,955	20,286	19,606	120,635	2,697
Ratnapura	1,434	105,874	22,353	21,460	106,767	2,790
Total...	3,456	897,329	162,534	121,426	938,437	34,178

IV.—Colombo District.

	1881 between Feb. 17 and Dec. 31.	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.	Total.
Population at Census on February 17, 1881—389,788.								
Births	5,672	8,071	8,768	9,727	9,552	8,465	9,671	59,926
Deaths	4,639	5,427	5,295	5,340	7,534	7,067	7,659	42,961
Excess of Births over Deaths ...	1,033	2,644	3,473	4,387	2,018	1,398	2,012	16,965
Population on December 31, 1887, according to the above returns—406,753.								
Marriages	2,229	2,306	2,568	2,549	1,969	2,073	2,373	16,067

These returns show the very great claims which the Western Province, and especially the Colombo District, has on the Government. The population of the Colombo District is larger than that of any of five Provinces. I should not be surprised if the Census of 1891 should show that it is larger than either the Central or Southern Provinces.

Indeed, as I have before pointed out, the revenue and the population of some of the kóralés of the Colombo District are in excess of those of some of the Provinces of the Island.

I believe that the population as given in the Census in 1881 with 10 per cent. added would throughout the Western Province give a more correct estimate of the present population than a return based on the registered births and deaths.

The registration of births, deaths, and marriages is, I regret to say, done in a most unsatisfactory manner. I believe that in some districts a large percentage of births is not registered, in others neither births nor deaths are sufficiently registered; and the registration of marriages is altogether unreliable.

Take the returns for the present year: Negombo with a population of 130,000 registers only 764 marriages and 5,498 births, whilst Ratnapura with 100,000 population registers 847 marriages and 3,240 births.

The percentage of births in Negombo is 42·37 per 1,000, whilst in Colombo and Kalutara it is only 23·77 and 27·11 respectively. The deaths in Ratnapura are 35 per 1,000 and in Colombo only 19 per 1,000. The birth-rate of Ratnapura is, however, 32 per 1,000 and of Colombo 23.

In the Kandyan Districts the marriage-rate for the year 1887 is 7 and 8 per 1,000, whilst in the maritime Districts it is under 6; but the average for a period of seven years in the Kandyan Districts is only 2, and in the maritime Districts only 4 per 1,000.

The registration of births, deaths, and marriages will never be on a satisfactory footing until the headmen are either paid and then held responsible and fined for not reporting domestic occurrences or are given a share of the registration fees. At present they are expected to be responsible for due registration, but all the fees go to the Registrar.

PRINCIPAL ROADS AND BRIDGES.

I regret to have to report that the state of the principal roads in the Western Province during 1887 has been most unsatisfactory.

I am far from attributing this to the new system. I think any system which creates a great saving in times of great want without undue inconvenience is good; but economy may with every good intention sometimes be carried too far, and some of the principal roads in the Colombo District, which have formed the subject of special report to Government, have been in very bad order.

Of course it may be that Ceylon roads until the last ten years have been too good, and too much may have been spent upon them considering the state of the public revenues; but I trust that the limit of reduced expenditure was reached in 1887, and, though we may never perhaps see our roads as they used to be, that we may never find them worse than they were in the year under notice.

It must be remembered, however, that economy in the maintenance of roads has admitted of some great improvements in the bridging of public thoroughfares. The bridges over the Sítáwakagaṇga at Avisáwélla and over the Kęlani at Karawançlla are both large works, and will be of much service to the new and prosperous tea districts in the Kęlani valley of the Three Kóralés and Lower Bulatgama.

I trust that it will be possible this year to make provision for the Tóppu bridge, on the principal thoroughfare to Chilaw and Puttalam; for a large bridge with its centre span gone, remaining in that state, is an evidence of poverty which I trust the revenue of 1888 will remove, especially as it is a bridge on the road from Colombo to the pearl banks.

MINOR ROADS AND THOROUGHFARES.

Special reports on these for the year have been called for, and will be furnished; it is not necessary, therefore, to include them in this report.

XI.—ROUTINE AND OTHER WORK.

In referring to the duties and the work of the Government Agent, Western Province, I must first express my best thanks to the gentleman who performed those duties for me during the year I was in England. A reference to Mr. Hardinge Hay Cameron's Administration Reports for 1886 is sufficient to show the great interest he took in those duties and the marked ability with which he performed them, and it is a great satisfaction to me that he has now received the appointment of Chairman of the Municipality of Colombo, the capital city of this Province, for the duties of that office and those of the Government Agent are so connected and intermingled that it must be to the public advantage that these posts should be filled by officers who have served in both appointments, have worked together for many years, and have the interest of both the Province and its capital especially at heart.

XII.—EVENTS OF INTEREST AND IMPORTANCE.

The year 1887 will ever be memorable as the year in which British subjects throughout the world commemorated the jubilee year of the reign of Her Most Gracious Majesty Victoria, Queen of Great Britain and Ireland and Empress of India. The celebration of the fact that Her Majesty had completed fifty years of her reign was held on Coronation Day, and it was observed as a day of great rejoicing and thankfulness all over the Island, and especially in Colombo, the capital of Ceylon. Full details of the manner in which the auspicious day was observed have already been published, and it is therefore only necessary here to record that from one end of this Province to the other, in every district, in every village—aye, in every household—people of all classes and creeds united together to bear testimony to the manifold virtues of the sovereign and to the great benefits which her long and beneficent reign had conferred on her loyal and devoted subjects.

CONCLUSION.

I annex the following reports:—On the Kalutara District, by Mr. H. L. Crawford; on the Negombo District, by Mr. E. M. D. Byrde; on the Kęgalla District, by Mr. F. H. Price; on the Ratnapura District, by Mr. H. Wace; and reports on the working of the Local Boards of Kalutara and Negombo by the respective Assistant Government Agents who, as my representatives, perform the duties of chairmen.

A Local Board was appointed in Ratnapura from May 1, 1887, but no special report on its working has been received.

Government Agent's Office,
Colombo, June 30, 1888.

F. R. SAUNDERS,
Government Agent.

APPENDIX.

A.—Arrack.

I.—*Memorandum by the Hon. the Government Agent, Western Province.*

THE question of the best means of collecting the revenue from arrack has been under the consideration of the Revenue Officers of Government for some years past, and the time seems to have come when some decision in the matter should be arrived at.

2. The present renting system has its advantages and its disadvantages, which will be more fully put forward in another paper, the object of this memorandum being merely to discuss the excise system which is now proposed as a substitute for the renting system.

3. An excise system, if it can be introduced without material loss of revenue, is undoubtedly the best means of collecting the tax on arrack.

4. The proposed system of excise is called the central distillery system, and is fully described by the Auditor-General in his memorandum of May 25, 1885. The question is, Does the system which has there been suggested give a reasonable chance of recovering an amount of revenue equal to the present revenue? And the answer to that question depends mainly on—(1) How much arrack is consumed yearly? (2) Can the same amount of consumption be secured under the proposed system, and if so, at what cost?

5. I am indebted to the Auditor-General for a copy of a memorandum by the Government Agent of the Northern Province (who goes very minutely into the question of consumption of arrack), accepting and approving of the proposals submitted by the Auditor-General in May, 1885, and supporting the conclusions arrived at by Mr. Ravenscroft by certain figures of his own; and I find that the Auditor-General in a subsequent letter dated October 26, 1886, refers to Mr. Twynam's calculations as follows:—"Mr. Twynam takes a fair and reasonable view of the question of the average quantity of arrack that goes into consumption annually, and that may be dealt with in estimating the revenue that under an excise law may be expected to accrue"; and dealing with these figures the Auditor-General proceeds to estimate an average annual increase of revenue under the central distillery system of Rs. 152,771. I should, however, note in passing that whilst Mr. Twynam clearly estimates the Island consumption at 1,000,000 gallons, the Auditor-General takes 1,000,000 gallons as being "the amount of arrack consumed and

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exported," and by adopting this reading of Mr. Twynam's figures the Auditor-General takes credit to the excise system for an increase of Rs. 270,000, being the duty on an average of 135,000 gallons of arrack annually exported. This is manifestly misleading in a comparison of the two systems, for if an export duty of Rs. 2 were imposed on the 135,000 gallons exported and the present renting system were continued, the comparison made by the Auditor-General instead of showing a sum of Rs. 152,771 in favour of the excise would show a loss by the excise system of Rs. 117,229 annually. I will now proceed briefly to analyse the figures given by the Government Agent of the Northern Province as to the average quantity of arrack that goes into consumption annually.

6. Briefly stated, Mr. Twynam's arguments are these :—A million gallons of pure spirit as sold at the stills is consumed in Ceylon. It is watered and adulterated and made into 2½ million gallons of "so-called" arrack, and is consumed by one-half of all the able-bodied males in the Island at the rate of 10 gallons a year per man. It is paid for at the rate of Rs. 4·50 a gallon, and consequently the actual sum spent by consumers on this drink is 11¼ million of rupees a year! But the actual cost of pure spirit taken to any part of the Island is said to be Rs. 1·25 per gallon, so that the actual cost of the fluid when consumed (assuming that water costs nothing) is only 1¼ million of rupees. The duty paid to Government is admittedly under 2 million of rupees, so that the dealers or renters of the Island must divide between them a sum of 11¼ — 1¼ — 2 = 8¼ million of rupees! Can any one credit this? If so, the Government revenue should be not 2 millions of rupees but at least 5 or 6 millions of rupees, and yet both the Government Agent and the Auditor-General are content with 2 millions of rupees as revenue under the proposed excise system. Who then is to get this enormous sum of 8¼ millions when the renter is abolished under the excise system? All these conclusions, I would respectfully point out, are erroneous, and arise from the assumption (of which I myself was once guilty before I gave the matter careful investigation) that the quantity of arrack (pure) consumed in this Island cannot be less than 1 million gallons, supported by the equally hazardous assertion that by wholesale adulteration enormous sums are realised by retailers and sellers of arrack.

7. I join issue at once with both the Auditor-General and Mr. Twynam on these points.

8. I deny that a million of gallons of pure arrack (whether taken neat or adulterated) are consumed annually in Ceylon, and I deny that adulteration is carried to anything like the extent assumed by Mr. Twynam.

9. It is true that an error in the estimate of consumption or production of arrack will not affect the question of the comparative merits of the excise and the renting systems, but it will very materially affect our consideration of the question, whether we can or cannot expect to receive from an excise system the revenue which we now obtain under the renting system.

10. The first point, and indeed the principal point regarding which we require accurate information to enable us to discuss this question properly, is the amount of consumption, and it must be remembered that the consumption in 1887 is very different to the consumption in 1877; and I will here at once state my own opinion, which I have arrived at after careful consideration, that the consumption of arrack in the Island during the last three or four years has not exceeded an average of 500,000 gallons, and that any calculations based on a higher consumption are altogether fallacious.

11. If I am correct in my estimate, and I think it is a matter on which the committee should endeavour to secure evidence, if the figures before them are not conclusive, it is clear that a recovery of only Rs. 2 per gallon at the still would leave a very serious loss. Rs. 3 would possibly raise as much money as the arrack rent sales, but if a costly establishment had to be paid for Rs. 3·50 might be necessary in order to raise the same amount of net revenue as we get at present from an equal number of gallons consumed.

12. Supposing the required sum to be fixed, we have to consider the second point: Can the same amount of consumption be secured, and if so, at what cost?

13. My own opinion is, that without a very large and costly establishment a large amount of adulteration would take place, and have the immediate effect of diminishing the sale of pure spirit.

14. If I am asked why I do not believe that arrack is now greatly adulterated, and yet think that it will be adulterated under an excise system, my reply is, that the renter and his agents are the most powerful checks on adulteration to-day. Every gallon of pure arrack that a renter can sell to his sub-renter represents a certain clear gain to him, and if the sub-renter converts one gallon into two gallons he defrauds the renter as well as the consumer, and that is why the renters insist on pure arrack being sold, and why they watch the sales so carefully. Adulteration by a renter himself when selling to a sub-renter does not pay, as pure arrack is to him so cheap (about 10 cents a bottle). Adulteration by a sub-renter, whose pure arrack costs him about Rs. 4, is however a large gain to the sub-renter and a serious loss to the renter; and I maintain that extensive adulteration by a sub-renter to-day would as assuredly damage a renter as extensive adulteration under an excise system would seriously damage the revenue. And in this country I think it will be impossible, without a very highly paid and very large establishment, to keep the same check on arrack sellers as is now kept by the renter and his servants.

15. Again, I think there would be a very serious loss to Government in the increased cost in the actual manufacture of arrack. Under our present system arrack is manufactured in the cheapest possible way, the manufacturer being in no way interfered with. The increase of cost in carrying so bulky a commodity as toddy the extra distance to the Government yards, the restrictions there exercised, and the general interference with trade, would very greatly increase the cost of production, and it must be remembered that every cent of this loss would come out of the Government revenue, and even a loss of 10 cents a gallon, as extra cost, on the present consumption, whether it be 1,000,000 gallons or 500,000, would represent a very material sum. It must be remembered too that arrack would still require to be stored in large quantities by wholesale dealers, and the storage of arrack costing Rs. 3 or Rs. 3·50 a gallon would lock up a far larger amount of capital than at present, when arrack costs the wholesale dealers only 60 cents a gallon. All this would materially affect the revenue.

16. But the most serious difficulty which I foresee is the impossibility of fixing any rate per gallon at the stills, which will not either be too low and thus cause a loss by giving extra profit to the retailer, or be too high and thus check consumption.

It is a mistake to suppose that the amount a man pays for his rents affects the price to which he sells to consumers. It is the amount which he can get out of the consumers which regulates the price he bids for a rent. Having once bought a rent and paid his money, his object is to raise the largest sum of money by the retail of a commodity of which he can buy any quantity at about 60 cents a gallon. In some districts it pays a man better to retail arrack at Rs. 4·50 per gallon than it would to sell it either at Rs. 5 a gallon or at Rs. 4 a gallon. Knowing this, the renter, through his sub-renters, sells at Rs. 4·50 per gallon, and realises the largest sum he can, and according to what he can so raise does he regulate his bid next year; but whether he gives much or little for his rent, he will not alter the retail price, Rs. 4·50, for that brings him in the largest net profit.

17. In other districts again, it pays a man better to retail at a much lower rate, say Rs. 3·50 per gallon, and he will naturally regulate his bid on that basis; but whether he buys his rent cheap, or is run up and buys high, he will not alter his retail rate of Rs. 3·50. The Government revenue for like reasons is not the same on each gallon of arrack consumed in different parts of the Island. Speaking of the Western Province alone, I know that whilst the Government gets as revenue Rs. 3 a gallon on the amount of arrack consumed in the Negombo District, it gets only about Rs. 2 a gallon on arrack consumed in the Siyané and Héwágam kóralés, and this is because the greatest profit is obtainable by retailing arrack high in Negombo and low in the Siyané and Héwágam kóralés.

18. Suppose then that Rs 3 were the amount fixed at the central distillery, and that rent sales and renters were abolished as proposed, the retail dealers in Negombo would make large profits, but Government would gain nothing, whilst the sale of arrack in Héwágam and Siyané kóralés would receive a severe check, and probably not half the quantity would be consumed. To my mind it is absolutely necessary that the renter or some similar agency should be continued.

19. The principal objections then to the proposed central distillery system are: First, that it proposes to abolish the renter, whom I regard as absolutely essential to any system—

(a) For the proper and economical distribution of arrack;

(*b*) As a cheap and effective check on the excessive adulteration of arrack;

(*c*) And as the regulator which enables the Government to get the largest amount of revenue out of the consumption of arrack, which is influenced by various circumstances in the different districts of the Island.

Secondly, that it will very largely increase the cost of the manufacture of arrack, which cost must come out of the Government revenue, and would be an irrecoverable loss.

20. The first objection may, I think, be got over by fixing a somewhat low duty on arrack at the central distillery (say Rs. 2 or somewhat less), and then selling the rents as heretofore; and this is what I should recommend if the central distillery system be adopted; but there is still the second objection, which to my mind cannot be got over.

21. It is impossible to say to what extent the cost of manufacturing arrack would be increased. I think to a very great extent, 5 cents or 10 cents a gallon, which, whether my estimate or the Auditor-General's be correct, would be a very heavy loss. Add to this the cost of the scheme in buildings and establishments, which I believe the Auditor-General admits will be nearly double what he first estimated, and we should have a first outlay and an annual charge to meet which in my opinion would render it absolutely impossible for us to secure anything like the revenue which we have hitherto done.

22. I propose in a separate paper to discuss the advantages and disadvantages of the renting system as it at present exists, and then to make my own suggestions for improving the system on which the duty on arrack is collected, but I may at once repeat what I have stated before in my letters to Government, that I consider the revenue from arrack can only be appreciably increased in two directions—

(*a*) By imposing a duty on the large amount of arrack (135,000 gallons) now exported without paying any duty to the Ceylon Government.

(*b*) By preventing illicit sale in distilling districts by increased watchfulness over distilleries.

23. In these two directions I think the revenue might be distinctly increased; otherwise I think the Government gets a larger revenue under the present system than it would under any other. Apart, however, from increase or decrease of revenue, there are defects in the present system of recovering the revenue which I think ought to be remedied, and the means of doing this I propose to discuss in another paper.

March 15, 1887.

F. R. SAUNDERS,
Government Agent.

II.—*The Renting System.*

1. The system under which the revenue from arrack is at present collected is generally known as the Renting System, and it is practically regulated by the Ordinance No. 10 of 1844, by which the exclusive privilege of manufacturing and selling arrack and toddy is reserved to the Government.

2. The main principle of the arrack renting system is to leave the manufacture and sale of arrack as unrestricted as possible, so as to convey the commodity as cheaply as practicable to the consumer, and to obtain for the Government the full profit between the cost of manufacture and the price the consumer is willing to pay, giving a reasonable share only to the manufacturers, sellers, and retailers who are engaged in the trade.

3. To enable the Government to do this it has hitherto been deemed advisable to farm the exclusive privilege in the several districts to "renters," who having purchased the privilege by public auction, take the place of the Government, and endeavour to obtain the largest profit they can between the cost of manufacture and the price the consumer is willing to pay.

4. The question has recently been raised as to whether the Government does or does not get a fair share of these profits, and whether the renters' profits and the Government loss (in many ways) is not such as to make it desirable to introduce some other system, so that the Government may get its fair share and be protected from the chance of serious loss which it runs at present in the event of a combination of renters being successful.

5. That the real question raised is one of revenue there can be no doubt, for though reference is occasionally made to the moral effects of the system on the people, and to the anxiety and trouble caused to public officers, yet the whole argument of the Auditor-General and of the Government Agent of the Northern Province in their published reports has been to show that enormous profits are realised by renters, and that by a change of system a large and substantial increase of revenue will result. It may be well then to consider briefly the advantages of the renting system.

6. The manufacture and sale (wholesale) of arrack is practically left quite unrestricted. A license, for which a fee of Rs 100 is charged, must be obtained. This done, the licensee becomes entitled to all the privileges of a manufacturer and wholesale dealer. He selects his own spot for a distillery, he rents cocoanut trees, gets his labour, fuel, &c., in the cheapest market, works when and how he likes, and so long as he does not attempt to sell by retail is wholly unrestricted as a manufacturer and wholesale dealer. In like manner a wholesale dealer, on a license costing only Rs. 100, may buy, possess, and keep any quantity of arrack, and sell in quantities not less than 35 gallons. The arrack he stores has not yet paid duty, and consequently the capital locked up is comparatively small, and every facility is thereby given to ensure that the arrack shall reach the retail dealer as cheaply as possible.

7. The retail dealer is "the renter." Having purchased the privilege for a year, his business is to convey the arrack as cheaply as he can to the consumer. In the first place, he pays to the Government only one-tenth of his annual rent—sometimes even this is not exacted; he then subdivides his rent into taverns, and sells the subdivided privilege. A portion of this he in his turn recovers in advance, the balance being repaid from time to time when the sub-renters come to him for arrack. Practically the renter pays Government in advance only for the privilege month by month as he requires to use it, and he recovers week by week or month by month from the sub-renters to whom he supplies arrack for retail, so that the renter invests the smallest amount of capital necessary for his trade, and the sub-renters merely pay for their arrack in advance as they retail it. No system could be devised, I think, which would convey the arrack more cheaply to the consumer; and as it is the interest of every one except the last retailer (the sub-renter) to check adulteration, no system is better calculated to ensure the sale of pure spirit.

8. The renter having through sub-renters got the arrack to the consumer, of course obtains the best price he can compatible with large sales, and he and they regulate the retail rate to secure this end, and wholly without reference to the Government fixed price (legal vend). The retailer knows the market and regulates his price, and on the consumption and on the profit which he can make between the price of arrack as he can lay it down and the price he can obtain for it depends the amount which he next year will bid for the privilege of retailing. If, therefore, there be proper competition, if renters pay a fair price for the privilege of retailing, there can be no system which is fairer to the Government, to the trader, and the consumer.

9. It is in not securing proper competition, and in not being sure of getting a fair price with good and ample security for its payment, that the renting system is defective. Renters often combine (especially when the rents are first put up) and do not bid. Sales are thus postponed until there is barely time to make arrangements for the management of the rent or for proper security to be taken. The Government Agent is placed in a most awkward position; he has the unpleasant alternative before him of either working the rent on behalf of Government (which is then almost impossible) or of selling it much below its value. He has to do his best to what is called "break up the combination," that is, induce one of the members of the combination to play false to his partners, in the hope of securing a considerable profit to himself alone instead of a small share of a larger profit. The Government Agent is (fortunately) generally successful, and a sale of the rent is effected, though often for less than it ought to fetch; but what would be done, or what loss would be sustained should the Government Agent fail in his attempt, has never yet been fairly answered; and until the Government is in a position to say what it will and can do to hold its own against any combination, the system of renting cannot be said to be satisfactory.

10. The remedy generally proposed is to subdivide the rents, so as to bring in a larger number of small capitalists. Theoretically nothing seems easier, but practically it cannot be carried out. It is urged by the renters that rival renters poach on each other's privileges, and that large rents are easier worked than small ones. The wealthy renters refuse to compete for small rents, and the price realised for three divided rents is never so much as for the three rents sold together. For instance, when I have attempted to sell Colombo, Lansiawatta, and Salpiti kóralé separately, I do not get bids amounting to Rs. 350,000, whilst together I generally get Rs. 460,000. The question then arises: Is there no other way by which we can secure a larger number of small capitalists to bid for our rents? And it seems to me that the only remedy is somewhat similar to that contemplated by the central distillery system, though carried out in a different manner, viz., to collect a portion of the revenue at the stills, to do this with as little interference as possible with the cost of manufacture, and by thus reducing the value of the several rents enable a large number of persons to compete.

11. It is no doubt a difficult matter to arrange this, but I am inclined to think that a strict application of the 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, and 22nd clauses of the Ordinance No. 10 of 1844 would enable us to collect at the stills, either as a still head license or as a duty per gallon on the arrack distilled, an amount of Re. 1 or Re. 1½ per gallon, without the costly buildings and establishment required under the central distillery system, and without the same vexatious and expensive interference with the manufacture of spirit.

12. There would, of course, be some establishment (and it must be a well paid establishment) required, and there must necessarily be a loss of revenue consequent on the larger amount of capital which would be locked up; but after giving the question my best consideration, I am convinced that in either case the cost and consequent loss would not be so large as under the proposed central distillery system.

13. Of the two systems, viz., a duty on the measured gallon of arrack distilled, or a still head license according to size of still and approximate outturn, I am aware that the former is theoretically the most fair; but the cost of carrying out the latter would be less, and the danger of illicit removal would be reduced to a minimum.

14. It would not be difficult, I think, to levy a duty of Rs. 3,000 or even Rs. 5,000 on every still of 150 gallons capable of producing 3,000 to 4,000 gallons of arrack, with a progressive rate on large stills; a small proportion only, say Rs. 500, to be payable on the granting of the license and the balance to be payable only as the distilled arrack was sold and removed from the distillery. The amount so levied should be such that the whole amount would be recovered if the average minimum only was distilled and sold. This would do away with the advantages that otherwise might result to a distiller from illicit removal.

15. A strict application of clauses 7 and 22, with a small well paid staff and a few trustworthy inspectors, would render any illicit distillation or removal of arrack impossible, and I believe that this scheme might be worked for comparatively little cost and with hardly any interference with the trade, whilst at the same time it would afford a check on the illicit retail sale at stills. But I have still grave doubts whether this system would, any more than the central distillery system, create a larger number of competitors for the rents. The amount bid for the rents would no doubt be much smaller, but the price to be paid for arrack would be larger; and I doubt whether renters would not require to invest more capital than they do now; if so, no material gain would be the result, and, as I have before said, there can be no doubt that any change of system means loss of revenue.

16. The Sub-Committee, I think, cannot report satisfactorily without more reliable information than they have at present before them. No recommendation made now can affect the sale of the arrack rents for 1887–1888, unless indeed the Sub-Committee should desire to recommend that the sales be held at once as heretofore, and that if extraordinary combinations should this year be attempted, or the rents are not sold by May 1, that the Government should make arrangements to work the rent employing a regular staff for that purpose. It must not be expected that the Government Agent's Department could do this unaided; but if the Government make up its mind to thoroughly work a rent and to sell by taverns, working exactly on the same lines that the renters work, I do not think that it would be impossible to carry it out, or that it would create a greater loss than by giving in to a combination and accepting a ridiculously low bid. But it is necessary to be very careful, and not to assume that a bid is too low because it is less than the amount obtained the previous year. No branch of the revenue is affected more immediately by financial depression than the arrack revenue; and there are other causes—such as the temperance movement which are affecting the sale and consumption of spirits. If I am correct in my estimate that less than 500,000 gallons of arrack are now consumed in Ceylon, and the Government gets a revenue from this source of Rs. 1,500,000, which is at the rate of over Rs. 3 per gallon, I do not think it can complain that it gets an unfair share, especially if it pretends to keep down the "legal bend" to Rs. 4·48 per gallon.

17. In submitting this memorandum I must express my great regret that owing to the very great pressure of work on me at present I am obliged to submit it in a very imperfect and unsatisfactory form.

18. It is intended merely for the information of the Committee, who I hope will determine to go thoroughly into the question, collecting reliable information (which I believe is readily obtainable) from statistics and other sources of the exact amount of consumption, the cost of production, the cost of distribution, the retail rates in various districts, and the profits made by the several renters. The Sub-Committee will then be in a position to frame reliable estimates showing the cost of the central distillery system and of the systems for collecting the duty at the present stills. A tolerably fair estimate may then be formed of the loss of revenue which any change in the present system will bring about; and the Sub-Committee will be able to express its opinion whether, under all circumstances, such change is necessary or desirable. I am strongly against a final report being made to Government until the matter has been thoroughly inquired into.

F. R. SAUNDERS,
Government Agent.

March 22, 1887.

III.—*Extracts from Memorandum dated May 29, 1887.*

IN my opinion nothing can be done by the Committee until they have arrived at tolerably correct estimates based upon careful inquiry on the following points:—1, Annual consumption; 2, cost of production; 3, cost of transport; 4, price paid by consumer; 5, profit secured by renter and tavern-keeper.

The price paid by the consumer, we may take it, will remain the same, and so will the actual consumption. The renters now charge the most profitable price (varying very much indeed in different parts of the country according to circumstances), which they can obtain, and this retailers will do under any system. The questions then seem to be—Can the Government transport and distribute arrack as cheaply as the renter, and if so, can the Government pay the cost of an excise establishment, the additional cost of manufacture, and other expenses consequent on the introduction of the excise system out of the sum which is now retained by the renter as profit?

To be able to express a sound opinion on this point, it seems to me necessary that we should determine with some accuracy the figures under the heads 1 to 5 above. This will entail a great deal of inquiry and a great deal of correspondence; and in my opinion the first thing to be done is to appoint a Secretary. Rs. 250 or Rs. 500 spent in this way would be money well laid out. The Secretary, whoever he be, should proceed at once to collect information on the points required.

The several Collectors of Customs can give returns showing the exports and imports, abroad and coastwise, of all arrack shipped in Ceylon. These returns will enable us to estimate with tolerable accuracy the consumption of arrack in the Northern and Eastern Provinces. The Railway authorities can give reliable returns of all arrack sent to Polgahawela for Kégalla and Kurunégala to Mátalé, to Kandy, and other stations. From these they can get valuable information to enable us to check the figures, which no doubt we can obtain from the renters, as to consumption of arrack in the several Provinces and Districts.

Every renter should be examined. Many of them will give their books showing their transactions in rents in which they have now no interest. Distillers should also be examined. Questions should also be addressed to the Government Agents and Assistant Government Agents of distilling districts, and the replies should be examined and compared and sent back until correct returns are furnished.

If all this be done by a careful Secretary under the direction of the Committee, a mass of useful information will be obtained, which will enable the Committee to examine the question carefully and frame a valuable report for the guidance of Government.

B.—Report of Mr. A. W. Burnett, C.E., on the Water Supply of Negombo.

13, Upper Phillimore Gardens,
London, November 14, 1887.

The Hon. the COLONIAL SECRETARY.

SIR,—IN reference to my letter No. 127 of November 4, 1886, in reply to your letter No. 104 of October 28, 1886, I have the honour to submit my report on the water supply of Negombo.

2. In your letter No. 40 of May 19, 1885, I was instructed to report at my convenience on this question.

3. During the following months I visited Negombo, and with the Hon. the Government Agent, Western Province, and the Assistant Agent of Negombo investigated the matter and examined the surrounding district, and prepared details and particulars.

4. Two sites were fixed for trial borings to be made to ascertain if pure water could be obtained in the neighbourhood of Negombo as referred to in my letter No. 86 of August 10, 1885.

5. In your letter No. 1,095 of August 24, 1885, to the Hon. the Government Agent, Colombo, of which a copy was forwarded to me for my information, you state the matter of the borings had been referred to the Director of Public Works.

6. In your letter No. 104 of October 28, 1886, you refer to me for report a letter from the Director of Public Works, enclosing a proposal from his Financial Assistant to supply Negombo with Labugama water by a branch from the Labugama pipe of the Colombo Waterworks.

7. The consideration of this proposal as well as of a scheme for the local supply of Negombo depended upon the results to be obtained from the borings previously mentioned.

8. The particulars of these borings were forwarded to me by the Director of Public Works in letter No. 61 of January 11, 1887, and since their receipt matters connected with the Colombo Waterworks have postponed the full consideration of the question.

9. The water supply of Negombo was under discussion in 1876 and 1877, when examinations and reports were made upon existing wells by the Director of Public Works and the Provincial Assistant. The conclusions were unfavourable to a probability of a satisfactory supply of good water being obtained.

10. In April, 1885, the Assistant Government Agent at Negombo reported on the question and suggested the sinking of a shaft at Tóppu, near the mouth of the Maha-oya, to ascertain if water-bearing strata might be within reach from which a supply of water sufficient in quantity and quality could be obtained. This report was referred to me with your letter No. 40 of May 19, 1885.

11. The detail investigations, as already stated, were made in conjunction with the Hon. the Government Agent and the Assistant Agent, to whom I am indebted for their assistance and the information obtained as to the existing conditions.

12. The population of Negombo within the Municipal limits by the 1881 census was 8,949, and for present purposes may be taken at 10,000 persons.

13 The town is built on low ground two to six feet above the level of the lake, such drainage as exists being by surface drains into the lake and canal. The water of both of these is brackish, being, however, less so in the canal at such times as a flow exists through it from the Maha-oya into the Negombo lake.

14. There are numerous shallow wells in the district. The water of those in the town is bad and often brackish, but is partially used for bathing purposes as well as the canal.

15. The water for cooking and drinking purposes is obtained from four wells at a plot of ground belonging to private owners at Tammita, about one and a half mile distant. Here the water is good. The four wells are set aside for drinking purposes, but they are close to eight wells which are reserved for bathing purposes, as well as seven other wells also in the close neighbourhood. It was stated that there is very seldom any general scarcity of water, but that in dry seasons the four wells reserved for drinking-water are constantly emptied, and people have to wait for the water to fill up after draining them empty.

16. At this site the surface of the ground is about eight feet above the water in the lake. The wells are sunk an average depth of ten to twelve feet deep only through sand, the water standing at about an average of two feet above the lake level.

17. The present supply of water to the people is entirely in private hands. From the inquiries made the following particulars have been obtained

18. There are about twelve carts employed carrying water for sale in the town, each cart holding twenty four chatties containing each four and a half gallons, or 108 gallons per cart. The chatties are filled from the four reserved wells at Tammita and carried into the town, where they are sold at the rate of one and a half cent per chatty for the district outside the canal and two cents per chatty in the inside district between the sea and the canal.

19. According to the weather and season these carts make each from four to seven trips per day, and the average is put at five trips per day.

20. In addition to this water which is sold in chatties some people fetch their own water in their own carts in casks holding fifteen chatties or 67½ gallons. There are stated to be nine of these carts making from one to two trips per day. For this water a monthly rent is paid to the owners of the wells.

21. The jail brings its own supply in a cask holding about forty five chatties or 203 gallons, and the cart makes three trips per day.

22. The hospital supply is not included in the following estimate as it has wells of its own and is outside the Municipal limits.

23. The estimate of the water supplied works out as under to 8,000 gallons per day :—

Twelve carts of 108 gallons at five trips each	6,480
Nine carts of 67½ gallons at one to two trips each	911
Jail cart, 203 gallons, at three trips	609
	8,000

In addition to this quantity sold to the inhabitants a certain number of people, estimated at from one-fourth to one-fifth of the population, fetch their own water from wells without any payment.

24 Allowing for this out of the present population of say 10,000 persons, there would be some 7,500 to 8,000 persons supplied by the 8,000 gallons of water brought in by carts, or say one gallon per head per day only for all cooking and drinking purposes.

25. For bathing many of the people use the canal, especially when, as is usually the case, there is a downflow in it from the Maha-oya. A portion of the population go to wells outside the town, about one and a half

mile away on the easterly side, where they draw water for themselves without payment, and others go to the bathing-wells at Tammiṭa adjoining the four wells from which the domestic supply for drinking and cooking is drawn for sale in the town.

26. During the dry season and when the water in the canal is brackish, these various bathing-wells are more frequented than in wet weather, and, as a general rule, more on Wednesdays and Saturdays than other days in the week.

27. At Tammiṭa there are some fifteen bathing-wells, at which tubs are provided and a charge made. From a return given to me it appears there are at these fifteen wells 113 tubs, and it is estimated that these earn on an average of all times from Rs. 10 to Rs. 11 per day, of which the eight bathing-wells at Tammiṭa, adjoining the four drinking-water wells, with sixty-eight tubs, earn Rs. 7 per day. The charge for a bath is two cents, so that at the Tammiṭa wells, with sixty-eight tubs and eight wells, there are an average of 350 baths per day using about 20,000 gallons, and in the whole district of the fifteen wells an average of from 500 to 550 baths per day using 30,000 to 33,000 gallons of water.

28. The whole of this water after use is poured on to the ground, into which it soaks and is redrawn again at the various wells, including the four drinking-water-wells.

29. It is stated the proprietors of the wells refuse to sell water to be taken away from more than the four wells in use for this purpose, the reason no doubt being that the wells would be exhausted by so doing; whereas the bathing does not consume any water, which is, under the system, used over and over again.

30. The cost to the inhabitants for the present water sold for use may average about as under :—

	Rs.	c.
1,440 chatties sold in the town for drinking and cooking per day :—		
Say 900 chatties inside canal, two cents	18	0
Say 540 chatties outside canal, one and a half cents	8	10
	26	0
Average at bathing wells	10	50
Total per day ...	36	50
Rent of well for private carts, one rupee each per month for nine carts ...	9	0
Jail cart pays	2	0
Total per month ...	11	0

An addition must be made for part cost of keep on bullocks and carts.

The annual charge would then be :—

	Rs.
Water sold by chatty and bathing, Rs. 36·50 per day	13,323
Water rented by private carts, Rs. 11 per month	132
Say part cost of bullocks, cart drivers, &c.	400
Total per annum ...	13,855

Equal to five per cent. on a capital sum of Rs. 277,100.

31. According to the information obtained it is probable that the total may vary down to about Rs. 11,000 per annum in moderate seasons and years of abundant rainfall, and up to Rs. 16,000 in severe years of drought, with corresponding variations in the quantity of water sold, but I am of opinion that the usual amount spent on water purchase may be fairly taken at from Rs. 12,000 to Rs. 14,000 per annum.

32. For this sum about 80 per cent. of the population within the Municipal limits may be said to obtain about one gallon per head for home use, and about five or six per cent. obtain a bath per day, the population supplying their own further wants as they may be able.

33. In 1885 a 5 per cent. rate levied within the then existing Municipal limits amounted to Rs. 4,657, so that the money paid by a portion of the inhabitants for a very partial supply is the equivalent of a rate varying from about 13 per cent. to 15 per cent. on the assessment.

34. Beyond the limits of the Municipality there is an outside adjoining district containing population which would be naturally included in any permanent and general scheme of water supply, and to which it was proposed the Local Board limits should be extended.

35. The total population thus to be supplied is put at 13,500 persons. To allow for increase I estimate the measure of any supply of water at ten gallons per head per day on 15,000 persons: 150,000 gallons per day total, as the least quantity that can be considered satisfactory and sufficient.

36. With the exception of the wells at Tammitta, from which the present drinking water is obtained, the wells of the district almost all yield either bad or inferior water, or are liable to become brackish.

37. Special examination was made of the wells at Tammitta, and a boring put down to ascertain if there was any chance of obtaining a permanent supply of the required quantity of water.

38. The results of the boring (forwarded by the Director of Public Works) show that the ground at the site of these wells consists of about 12 ft. in depth of fine sand, then 3 ft. of coarse sand. Below 15 ft. depth the sand becomes argillaceous until at 24 ft. depth a solid yellow clay was obtained to a thickness of 9 ft., or 33 ft. from the surface, when it was succeeded by a very stiff blue clay.

39. The existing wells are from 10 to 12 ft. deep only, just reaching the bed of coarse sand. The argillaceous material and clay existing below the sand at 15 ft. depth show that there is no deep-seated source of supply, and that the water found is merely that contained in the local shallow surface sand beds, due to surface rainfall and held there by the clay below. A continuous and large obstruction of water would speedily exhaust this supply, as is shown in the experience of the four wells from which water is now taken, and the disinclination of the owners to sell water for removal. If attempted, the result would probably be to draw in the inferior and brackish water lying in the surrounding country and swamps.

40. It is therefore necessary to look elsewhere for a source of supply.

41. There is no ground within a reasonable distance from which a supply of water can be obtained and conveyed to Negombo by gravitation, but the Maha-oya offers a constant and abundant source from which a supply can be taken within a short distance by pumping, provided the water can be obtained in a pure and wholesome condition.

42. The Assistant Agent of Negombo suggests in his report that a shaft should be sunk on the left bank of the river near its mouth at a place called Tóppu, four miles north of the town, to ascertain whether the necessary supply of water both as to quantity and quality could be obtained in strata supplied by underground water from the river.

43. In examining this proposal the site appears to be too near the mouth of the river to be certain of avoiding the salt or brackish water which in low states of the river flows or reaches for some distance up to the Maha-oya, as at the Kelani, Kalu, and other streams.

44. To utilise the Maha-oya water direct from the river would require the necessity of filtering through prepared sand filter beds, the water being first pumped from the river on to the filter beds and thence again to the town. As the country is almost wholly below the flood-level of wet seasons there would be great difficulty and expense in forming such works.

45. The bed of the river itself, however, appears to consist of large sand and gravel deposits, and it is probable that by sinking into these clear of the river and a short distance away, that a sufficient supply both in quality and quantity could be obtained by filtration from the river itself.

46. I accordingly selected what appeared a favourable site for such a purpose near Andemulla, on the south side of the river, and about 6½ miles from Negombo. This place is about 8 miles from the mouth of the river, and 4 to 5 miles above any known reach of brackish water.

47. A boring has been made here, and the results forwarded to me by the Director of Public Works.

48. At this place the river water when low is about 20 ft. below the surface of the river bank. For a depth of 25 ft. the material of the ground is clayey, and then begins to be mixed with sand. At a depth of 37 ft., or approximately about 17 ft. below the low-water level of the river, a bed of sand and large gravel was reached and tested for a further depth of 12 ft., when the boring was stopped. On reaching the sand and gravel bed at 37 ft. depth the water in the hole became approximately the same level as that in the river adjoining.

49. It is therefore evident that a considerable sand and gravel bed exists at this place in connection with the river water, and it is probable that an ample supply of good water can be obtained if a sufficient area of the gravel bed be tapped and the water and floods of the river above the level of the gravel be excluded.

50. To effect this a well would be sunk about 30 or 50 yards away from the river bank to penetrate about 12 ft. into the sand and gravel bed. The bottom, 6 or 8 ft., would be formed with cast iron cylinders perforated to admit water from the gravel round the sides as well as over the area of the bottom, and thus obtain the largest available delivering surface, while the remainder of the well would be lined with water tight cement brickwork to exclude all water above the gravel bed. The well lining would be continued 10 ft. above ground-level, to be about 5 ft. above the level of the highest known floods, and the engines and engine-house would be raised to the same level. By these means all water entering the well would filter through the gravel and sand, and the supply would be secure from interruption by floods.

51. I believe that by this means a satisfactory supply both in quantity and quality can be obtained.

52. The work required in addition to the well would consist of engines, boilers, and pumps in duplicate, a pumping main pipe to Negombo, distribution piping, and standpipes in the district of supply, and a small covered service tank to equalise the pressure and pumping and hold the night supply.

53. To provide a supply of 150,000 gallons per day at a minimum rate of 15,000 gallons per hour will require about eight horse-power of work. Separate duplicate engines, boilers, and pumps of this power would be provided, one set of which would be ordinarily at work and the other ready against accident or breakdown, and to assist or increase the supply when required. If worked full together, the two engines would supply about 250,000 gallons in twelve hours, or about 21,000 gallons per hour, and would thus fully meet extensions of the demand.

54. The main pumping pipe would be 8 in. diameter.

55. The distribution in the town and district would require about seven miles of 3-in. pipes and 60 standposts.

56. The covered service tank, 42 ft. by 22 ft. and 10 ft. deep, would hold 50,000 gallons, and be raised to a level of 30 ft. above ground surface, in order to give the necessary pressure to work and maintain the distribution, there being no natural site in Negombo available at a sufficient elevation.

57. I estimate the cost of the works, on the basis of exchange at 1*s.* 5*d.* per rupee, at Rs. 203,000, as under:—

	Rs.
Well and pumping station	24,500
Pumping main pipe, 8-in. diameter, 6½ miles	100,750
Covered service tank, 50,000 gallons	21,000
Service piping for distribution, 7 miles 3 in. pipe	37,100
Standposts for distribution, 60 in number	7,200
	190,550
Sundries and contingencies	12,450
Total ...	203,000

58. The annual charges would be as under:—

Charge on outlay to cover sinking fund at 5 per cent.	10,150
Cost of pumping the full average of 150,000 gallons per day ...	3,000
Management, upkeep, &c.	3,000
Total per annum	16,150

59. Before the materials for the works are ordered, I would recommend that a full test of the water, to be obtained from the sand and gravel beds, be made at Andemulla. This can be done perhaps from the present bore hole, if this is tubed to exclude all water above the sand, and the tubes driven well into the bed of gravel, or by sinking a small timbered shaft 3 ft. or 4 ft. square. A portable engine and pump can be sent from the Government Factory, which possesses these materials, and the water pumped continuously for a few days from the sand bed till it comes clear, and then be measured as to the quantity, and be also analysed. The cost would be trifling if the bore hole is in a condition to be utilised, and about Rs. 400 to Rs. 500 if the shaft is required.

60. A further suggestion for a supply of water to Negombo is forwarded to me for report in your letter No. 104 of October 28, 1886, from Mr. Ormsby through the Director of Public Works.

61. He proposes that a branch pipe from the Labugama main pipe of the Colombo Waterworks should be taken off near Wellanpitiya, two miles outside Colombo, and carried to Negombo, crossing the canal and Kelani river by the railway bridges.

62. Mr. Ormsby takes a pipe to convey 200,000 gallons in 24 hours, and estimates the cost of the scheme at Rs. 170,410, and that a quantity of water of not less than 10 gallons per head per day to 15,000 persons should be given, being the same amount I have estimated as the necessary supply to Negombo. Mr. Ormsby in his final paragraph states that he has only sketched the scheme in the roughest manner previous to serious consideration, and this must be borne in remembrance in discussing the proposals and details he suggests.

63. The proposal in itself is quite feasible, and the abstraction of the amount of water to be taken would not for the present have much effect upon the supply to Colombo, and I have therefore given full consideration to the scheme.

64. The water is proposed to be delivered through 20 miles of a 6-in. pipe, delivering approximately 200,000 gallons in 24 hours, and distributed from a service reservoir holding 156,000 gallons by 3-in. service piping and standposts.

65. I am, however, obliged to say that the details and estimate sketched out by Mr. Ormsby are inadequate for the purpose.

66. The quantity of 200,000 gallons delivery in 24 hours with the help of the service reservoir would be probably sufficient, but the 6-in. pipe, with the fall or pressure available, would only deliver half this quantity, and would require about four times the pressure existing to give the full quantity. The thickness of metal taken is also less than I have ever known used for such a long length of pipe of this size under pressure.

67. The necessary distance to Negombo, taking the shortest available route, is about 22¾ miles, and not 20 miles.

68. The cost of the service reservoir is given at Rs. 12,500, but to enable the distribution pipes, with the air valves and standposts, and the supply of water to be maintained full and in working order in the district, this reservoir must be raised at least 30 ft. above the ground level in Negombo, as there is no available natural site at this elevation. The reservoir must also be covered, or the water will become unusable. To meet these two requirements the cost would be at least four and a half times the amount given for it.

69. The sum put down for 3-in. service pipes and standposts is only Rs. 1,700, or sufficient to lay about one-third to half a mile of 3-in. piping. To supply the 13,500 persons at present in the Negombo district I have allowed in the estimate for the local scheme of supply seven miles of 3-in. piping and 60 standpipes.

70. To effectually carry out a scheme for taking the water from the Colombo pipe to Negombo will require an 8-in. pipe, delivering about 220,000 gallons in 24 hours, if running constantly, and a raised covered service tank to hold 100,000 gallons, with the same provisions for local distribution as that given in my former particulars of cost for the scheme of local supply from the Maha-oya.

71. The 8-in. pipe will deliver rather more than the quantity of 200,000 gallons taken by Mr. Ormsby, but the expensive covered tank can be reduced one-third, to 100,000 gallons capacity. This arrangement will give as good a supply and a larger margin for the future.

72. The cost of the works I estimate as under at Rs. 465,000, on the basis of exchange at 1*s.* 5*d.* per rupee, and on the same details as in the estimate for the local Maha-oya scheme :—

	Rs.
Main pipe 8-in. diameter, 22¾ miles	352,625
Covered service tank, 100,000 gallons	38,000
Service piping for distribution, 7 miles of 3-in. piping	37,100
Standposts for distribution, 60 in number	7,200
	434,925
Sundries and contingencies	30,075
Total ...	465,000

73. The annual charge on outlay, including sinking fund at 5 per cent., would be 23,250
Management, upkeep, &c. 3,750
Total per annum ... 27,000

74. The scheme for taking the Colombo water is therefore nearly Rs. 11,000 per annum more costly than the scheme of local supply from the Maha-oya.

75. I would therefore recommend that the test pumping of the sand and gravel beds referred to in paragraph 59 of this report should be carried out, and the water analysed previous to the preparation of the necessary drawings and specifications for the construction of the local scheme of supply from the Maha-oya.

I have, &c.,

A. W. BURNETT,
Chief Resident Engineer, Colombo Waterworks.

REPORT ON THE SABARAGAMUWA DISTRICT FOR 1887.

REVENUE.

THE revenue of the last year fell short of that of its predecessor by Rs. 7,939·82 ; but of this amount nearly Rs. 6,000 is to be accounted for in the less amount of arrears of previous years recovered, the figures being Rs. 6,858·42 brought to account as arrears in 1886 against Rs. 866·60 in 1887 ; also, owing to the drought in the Meda and Kadawatu kóralés, the recovery of the grain tax in those kóralés was not closed before the end of the year, Rs. 27,621·30 being brought to account in 1887 and Rs. 31,859·09 in 1886.

2. There was a considerable decrease also in *Fine Grain* revenue owing to the unfavourable season and failure of crops in the early part of the year under review.

3. The decrease under the head *Toll Rents* is attributable to the fact that in 1886 five of the principal tolls on the Ratnapura to Haldummulla road were collected in aumani.

4. Under the head *Licenses* there is a very considerable increase, the instalments being paid into this kachchéri, and not at Colombo from July 1.

5. The decrease in *Stamps*, Revenue and Judicial, still continues.

6. Again, in *Taxes* there is a considerable decrease owing to the removal of assessment for police from Ratnapura town consequent on the establishment of the Local Board.

7. The decrease of Rs. 2,793·60 under *Postal, including Stamps*, arises from an administrative change in the General Post Office, under which the postmasters now all take their stamps direct from the General Post Office. There is therefore no sale whatever for postage stamps at this kachchéri except of 5-cent postage-and-revenue stamps.

8. The difference in *Reimbursements* is due to the crediting in 1886 of a large sum of cart registration fees collected in 1885 and 1886, which had been held in deposit.

EXPENDITURE.

9. The increase in *Provisional Salaries* is due to the appointment of separate Ratémahatmayás for Atakalan and Kolonná kóralés.

10. The decrease in *Revenue Services* is due to the removal of the staff for collecting tolls in aumani on sale of the tolls.

11. The decrease in *Administration of Justice* is due to there having been one session of the Supreme Court less held at Ratnapura in 1887 than in 1886 ; and the same cause accounts for the decrease in the expenditure on *Prison Services*.

12. I now proceed to notice the various points upon which report is more particularly required.

I.—FOOD SUPPLY.

13. I regret to report that there was a serious failure of the yala crop in many villages of the Meda and in a few of the Kadawatu kóralés during the year. A drought, exceeding in duration and severity any within living memory in those kóralés, proved fatal to the growth of all crops sown in fields dependent for their irrigation chiefly on rain water and small streams. So great was the distress that I had to apply to Government for authority to open relief works and to distribute rice to those who from age, sickness, and infirmity were unable to do any work at all. The Public Works Department were subsequently authorised to open a relief work, and a road was opened in the more seriously affected locality between Lankábarana and Bówatta. About six miles were completed before the necessity for granting further relief ceased. The road is to be extended to the villages in the Bintenna, and will be of great advantage to the cultivators of fields and hén at that end of the District in facilitating transport of paddy and héna produce to the Balangoda bazaar, and to the villages of the Helauda paláta.

14. In consequence of this drought I applied to Government to remit a sum of Rs. 569·19, being the annual commutation on the lands in those villages which had suffered so severely. In most villages no crop at all was gathered, and the cattle were turned into the fields.

15. In other parts of the District the crops were fair and were successfully harvested.

16. I have called for detailed reports from each Ratémahatmayá on this point—viz., the food supply of the District—and the following is an abstract of their remarks :—

(1) In the Kuruwiti kóralé the staple food of the inhabitants consists of rice grown on their own fields, owiti, and hén, and also kurakkan, amu, menéri, manioc, and yams, with jak and bread-fruit when in season. The Ratémahatmayá considers that about 4,000 bushels of Coast rice are annually imported to meet the requirements of those who settle in the kóralé for trade and gemming or as artisans and carpenters. The price of country paddy is Re. 1·25 per bushel, and of Coast paddy Rs. 3 per bushel; of kurakkan 75c. to Re. 1 per bushel.

(2) In Nawadun kóralé the Ratémahatmayá is of opinion that the local supply of rice is not sufficient for more than six months' food, that fine grain and chena produce with jak and bread-fruit and manioc and yams provide food for another three months, and that during the remainder of the year the villagers barter jaggery, betel leaves, arecanuts, and cocoanuts with Moormen and low-country traders, who open boutiques in the villages in exchange for Coast rice and other supplies, the price of such Coast rice being Rs. 3 to Rs. 4 per bushel.

(3) In Meda kóralé the food supply consists chiefly of rice and kurakkan, Indian corn, and sweet potatoes. The quantity locally grown is insufficient for the population, and about one-third of Coast rice is imported, its price being from Rs. 3·50 to Rs. 4·50 a bushel. More fine grain than paddy is grown in the Meda kóralé.

(4) In the Kadawatu kóralé there is more water, and the local rice supply is more equal to the wants of its population. Fine grain varies in price in each kóralé from 62½c. to Re. 1 a bushel. It should be noted also that the Kadawatu kóralé, being a narrower kóralé lying between the Detanagala to Horton Plains ridge and the Walawé-ganga, with an important trunk road passing through its midst, the villagers benefit considerably by the traffic, and especially in being able to dispose of their straw to carters.

(5) In Atakalan kóralé the food supply is more equally distributed between locally-grown rice and héna produce. About one-third of the food supply of the kóralé is imported, and is obtained chiefly by barter of garden produce and jaggery. Paddy sells at from Re. 1·25 to Re. 1·50 per bushel, and kurakkan at Re. 1 to Re. 1·25.

In the Kandawel and Tambagam pattus of this kóralé the want of good food is experienced, and the villagers exist mainly on héna produce.

(6) In Kolonná kóralé the chief food is kurakkan and Indian corn. In the upper villages rice is more abundant, but it does not go far, and until Government provides this kóralé with better means of irrigation, héna produce will be the chief staple of food, and disease and parangi will be the result.

In the Diyapotagam pattu of this kóralé, except at Embilipitiya, very little paddy is grown, and that goes into the granaries of two or three landowners only, the cultivator's share having been probably mortgaged already to them; and the poorer villagers therefore live solely on fine grain. I have not seen any boutiques in the villages in that pattu, and Coast rice is an unknown luxury. The tavalam traders from Hambantota exchange salt fish and salt for kurakkan and chillies, but do not bring in coast rice.

Kurakkan is very cheap in this kóralé, the price being as low as 50c. a bushel at the reaping season.

(7) In Kukulu kóralé, although but little rice is grown, and the fields are generally infertile, the food supply is varied and abundant, and the people of the kóralé are in a healthy, vigorous condition. The climate is very favourable to el-ví cultivation, and the large tracts of ówiti yield a good supply of yams, amu, and menéri, when cultivated. The Ratémahatmayá states one-fifth of the rice consumed is imported, its price varying from Rs. 3·50 to Rs. 4·50 a bushel, and country rice selling at Rs. 3 a bushel.

II.—LEGISLATION.

17. Under this head I must invite attention to the remarks I made in my annual reports for 1885 and 1886 regarding the settlement of (1) Services between landlords and tenants: (2) Claims against the Crown of lands held on sittu or sannas, or British grant, but of which the exact extent is wholly undefined.

18. The first question cannot be too quickly dealt with. Every year's delay strengthens and encourages the opposition of the tenant, and while it deprives the landlord of a revenue to which Government has given a legal sanction, it increases his expenses in recovering them. I recommend one of two courses: either (*a*) appoint a fresh Commissioner to revise existing services and rates, which are outrageously high, and are calculated on obsolete services (I believe,

if this were done, and done without delay, the tenants would willingly discharge the reasonable service or pay the commuted rate, and both parties would benefit); or (*b*) allow the value of services to be recovered upon a petition to the Assistant Government Agent of the District, and after trial before him, with an appeal to the Government Agent, and if necessary beyond, to the Governor in Executive Council.

19. This procedure would be in harmony with native feeling: it would save the landlord and tenant the stamp writs which often exceed the value of the service to be recovered. It is the interest of the revenue officer to have these variances in his District settled, and as he is constantly travelling, and more familiar with the conditions and peculiar circumstances of the parties to such cases than a resident judicial officer can be, he would be in a better position to effect a satisfactory settlement. He can always, moreover, bring more pressure on a landlord to agree to an amicable settlement than a judicial officer would feel himself at liberty to use. If, however, the recovery of services is to be effected as at present through the Court of Requests, I do strongly urge the remission of stamp duty on such cases; for, as the law now stands, it is impossible to recover such services at any reasonable cost.

20. As regards the settlement of claims in Sabaragamuwa against the Crown, so much has been written that I need scarcely press the matter further on the attention of Government. Sabaragamuwa has during the past years been held back from sharing in the progress of the rest of the Island by two causes: one by that just noted—the bondage of tenants to landlords and the difficulty of settling their disputes quickly and equitably—and by the numerous unsettled claims between the Crown and private individuals throughout the District.

As long as neither the Crown nor any private individual can give a clear title to land, it is hopeless to expect that capital will be invested in the District or that enterprise will be developed. The prosperity noticeable in the Kukulu kóralé and the more independent bearing of its population as compared with other parts of Sabaragamuwa more favoured in soil and climate is attributable, in my opinion, to the fact that there are scarcely any services registered in that kóralé, and very few unsettled claims between the Crown and its subjects.

21. The register of claims referred to in my report of last year has been prepared, and I trust the present year will see decisive action taken towards their settlement. So strongly do I feel on the subject as one involving the best interests and future progress of this District, that I would rather see every inch of every claim conceded by the Crown than suffer the present doubt and consequent stagnation to continue.

22. I again direct attention to the amendment of the Grain Tax Ordinance in the direction indicated in my report of 1886. The last year with its severe drought and total failure of crops has proved to me how very desirable it is that powers should be given to remit or suspend the recovery of the annual commutation in exceptional cases, or to accept payment in kind.

III.—PUBLIC WORKS.

23. The works most required in this District come under the head of Irrigation, and the most important of these is the scheme for the irrigation of land in the centre of the Kolonná kóralé at Panamuré by the deviation of the Erapóruwé or Kitulbokké-gaṇga into the Ketigan-ár. Estimates for this work were made by the Public Works Department, and were submitted in March; but it is most disappointing to record that no sanction has yet been given to that estimate. It provided at a cost of Rs. 32,000 for constructing an anicut across the Kitulubokké-gaṇga and for the excavation of a channel 8 ft. wide at bottom between the above river and the Ketigan-ár. The distance between the two rivers is hardly a mile, and most of it is already a natural channel; but there is a heavy cutting on leaving the larger river.

24. Under the vote in the Supply Bill of 1886 for Rs. 10,000 to the Public Works Department, work has commenced at Panamuré, and an anicut and two channels, north and south of the Ketigan-ár, are under construction. It therefore only remains to take in hand the headwork and the channel, which will divert the required amount of water to the Ketigan-ár, and thence to the tracts waiting for cultivation at Panamuré. The soil there is extremely fertile, much of it being the bed of an old tank of very large capacity. The Raṭémahatmayá of the kóralé is the principal owner of land at Panamuré, and takes the greatest interest in the proposed work. It is therefore on a different footing from other works, where the lands are in the hands of many owners, who have conflicting interests and do not agree about water-rate and cultivation. It is in the centre of a kóralé in which there is very little paddy land brought under cultivation, and where, to my own knowledge, the paddy lands even in existence have not been cultivated for three, six, and seven years, although paying annual commutation; and there are villages on all sides which will, without fail, supply willing and regular cultivators, who are now dependent on héna produce and bad water for their food supply, and who consequently suffer much from fever, paraṇgi, and debility.

25. In addition to this work, which is of so much importance to the very life of the inhabitants of the Kolonná kóralé, there is need for an anicut across the Hulandu-oya at Ḗmbilipiṭiya in place of the present native construction, and of repairs to the long ęla to the fields.

26. The surveys made by Mr. Gunn (whose recent death is so much to be deplored, and of the value of whose work I cannot speak too highly) establish that a channel can be taken from the same point at the Hulandu-oya to fill the tanks in the Tunkamé village and wasama, and others adjoining the Taṇgalla district. It will be of immense advantage to fill these tanks once a year, and then, with the ordinary rain supply, we shall ensure to the now paraṇgi-stricken villagers at least an annual supply of rice and decent drinking water

27. All these tanks should be provided with sluices, the villagers doing the earthwork. At present there is not a single sluice in the kóralé, except one that the Raṭémahatmayá put in at his own expense at Maḍuanwela.

28. In other parts of the District much yet remains to be done for irrigation. In the Heḷauḍa paláta of the Meḍa kóralé, at Uggalkaltoṭa, surveys have been taken for an anicut and extension of a channel from the Walawé-gaṇga to irrigate the rich Bintenna land in the hands of the Crown beneath the Kurugala range, for which over 500 acres have already been applied by residents of the kóralé. This is the most remunerative scheme in this District now under consideration, and I earnestly urge its adoption.

29. The estimate for the repair of the tank at Mulgama, in the Meda kóralé, and for an anicut at Karagastaláwé-oya, in the Kadawatu kóralé, two miles from Bilihul-oya on the road to Haldummulla, are also under consideration, and will, I hope, receive sanction.

30. In the Meda kóralé also a scheme for improving the intake of water into the Massennaela from the Dorawelle-oya, and the removal of rock from the ela itself, has been brought under notice.

31. The scheme referred to in my report for 1886 for diversion of the Dorawelle-oya into the Telessankandure-oya, and thence to Diyainna was, after survey by the Provincial and District Engineers, found impracticable on the score of expense, the work necessitating a heavy and very costly piece of tunnelling.

32. In the Kukulu kóralé I brought forward the scheme for irrigating the two splendid tracts of ówiti on either side of the Kukulu-ganga by taking water from the two tributary streams which join the Kukulu-ganga in that village, viz., the Koswatté-ganga and the Wewa-ganga, and a vote of Rs. 500 for the survey was obtained. These are the chief irrigation works which are most required in Sabaragamuwa. There are many others to be brought forward as time and funds permit.

33. Other works required for the District are—

(1) The completion of the line of communication between Ratnapura and Nambapána by constructing a bridge over the Kuru-ganga, ten miles from Ratnapura. Now that the vote taken in the Supply Bill of 1887 will complete the earthwork and bridges between Nambapána and Kirielle,—the point up to which the road was taken at the end of 1887—this will be the only river left unbridged between Ratnapura and the Bolgoda lake, and as it floods very quickly it is important that traffic should not be checked here, or the road will not be generally used.

(2) Improvements of roads in Kukulu kóralé—(*a*) The opening of the road traced from the Kalu-ganga to Kukulégama; (*b*) The junction of the through road to Kalutara *viâ* Pasdun kóralé with the road to Ratnapura at Kukulégama.

(3) Providing culverts and bridges on road from Mádampé to Hambantota. This is a most important road, opening up Sabaragamuwa, and especially the Bintenna villages of Atakalan and Kolonná kóralés, and ensuring communication and trade facilities for the sale and exchange of salt and salt fish and héna produce.

(4) Construction of a bridge over the Erapóruwé-ganga on the road from Bulutota to Embilipitiya.

(5) Extension of cart road from Gilgarron to meet road in Morowak kóralé, towards which a vote was taken in the Supply Bill of last year.

(6) Court-house at Rakwána. } Session to be held at each place in alternate months by
(7) Court-house at Balangoda. } the Police Magistrate of Ratnapura.

(8) Votes for tracing new roads to be opened up by village communities' labour. It would be of the greatest assistance to the development of the District and the profitable opening up of the country if a skilled tracing officer were placed at the disposal of the Assistant Government Agent to lay out lines of communication and survey the best trace for village roads, which are unfortunately often taken through ignorance in old Kandyan fashion up-hill and down-dale, having to be abandoned eventually after labour and money spent.

(9) A resthouse between Nambapána and Ratnapura, either at Kurugammódara or at Kirielle.

(10) Completion of bridges on the Eratne bridle road. So much has been already spent here that the work necessary to complete the road should be done, although I cannot say that it is a road of any great service to any large section of the community.

IV.—ADMINISTRATIVE MEASURES.

34. Of administrative measures now in progress in the District, that which has most occupied my thoughts and attention during the last year has been the working of the new village committees throughout the six kóralés of the District and the adoption of the new rules by the inhabitants of the Kukulu kóralé. The rules were generally adopted at meetings held during 1886, but it was agreed that they should not be put into operation until 1887.

35. Accordingly meetings were held by the Ratémahatmayá in each kóralé as *ex-officio* chairman, and the roads and works on which village labour should be turned out were determined. The next and fully anticipated result was the presentation of numerous petitions to Government asserting that the rules had been introduced against the wishes of the inhabitants and applying for their cancellation. This mendacious assertion having met with a proper reply, I had but little difficulty in securing obedience to the rules, and a very good beginning was made in clearing existing paths and opening new and useful village roads, in repairing schools and ambalams and édandas. The rules permit of ten days' labour being called out in the year, but it is not the intention of the village committees to exact annually more than three days' labour—and this cannot be called a very severe tax—the villager thus contributing six days' labour to the principal roads and three to his village paths and works of communal interest in the year, or commuting his liabilities by a payment of Re. 1·50 and Re. 1 respectively.

36. The regular working of these rules will be of the greatest ultimate benefit to the villagers in Sabaragamuwa, which suffers more than any other part of the Western Province from wretched means of communication with adjoining kóralés and principal roads.

37. The increase of schools in Sabaragamuwa affords subject for congratulation, there being now nineteen schools in this District as against six in 1884. Attendance is well maintained at all the vernacular schools and without pressure from the rules enforcing attendance. The utter neglect

of the Buddhist priesthood to render any service to the villagers in this direction is a conspicuous instance of the indifference to their religious duties which now characterises them. There is now a school in every kóralé, and if the Director of Public Instruction were only enabled to provide me with teachers, I could very profitably double the number of schools in the District.

38. Among the administrative measures in contemplation must be noted the settlement of the gabadágam of Gilimale and Bambaraboṭuwa, the two extensive villages under the shadow of the Peak. It is extremely important to secure the settlement of land in these villages, to decide legally and definitely what high land belongs to the Crown and what shall be allowed to the villagers, what is necessary to reserve for timber and to protect the sources of the Kalu-gaṇga, and how much can be exposed for general sale.

39. Closely connected with this question is that of the title of the Crown to high lands in rejected temple villages, which has been a subject of correspondence for so many years that it is not unreasonable now to hope for settlement at a not very distant future. The Forest Ordinance, even without the assistance of a survey, affords the most valuable machinery for effecting a settlement of claims between the Crown and villagers, which cannot be too widely used.

40. Of public works in progress during the past year I have already noticed some. The most interesting have been in irrigation :—

(1) The commencement of the anicut and channels at Panamuré in the Kolonná kóralé.

(2) The extension of the anicut across the Rakwáne-gaṇga and repairs to Malwatta-ẹla in the Aṭakalan kóralé.

(3) The completion of the Baṭugedara-ẹla or, rather, of the main channel only; for to make the fullest use of this scheme a further extension of the channel is necessary, by which over 100 more acres of ówiṭi land will be brought into annual rice cultivation. It is to be regretted that this work exceeded the original estimate and has turned out more costly than was anticipated, while a further sum is yet necessary for its full and complete working. Of its advantage, however, to the owners of the land underneath it there can be no question. In addition to the annual water-rate and the increase in the grain tax, which are direct returns to Government, a work of this nature puts at least Rs. 10 an acre into the pocket of the cultivator at each harvest, as against one or two every five years from potato cultivation of the same land; and the indirect benefit to Government and others in the locality by this additional purchasing power must be considerable.

(4) The extension of the road towards Nambapána by the construction of two miles of road from the 10th milepost to Kiriẹlla.

(5) The sinking and lining of wells in the Binṭenna villages of Aṭakalan and Kolonná kóralés. A vote of Rs. 1,000 enabled me to sink new wells at Mulendiyawala, Maḍuanwala, and Kumburugamuwa, in Kolonná kóralé, and at Niyangama, Pallébẹdda, and Nalugasára, in Aṭakalan kóralé, all of which will, I hope, be lined in 1888.

(6) The construction of the new block of twelve separate cells in the jail yard, of a new kitchen and latrine, and the conversion of the old kitchen into a hospital room, were completed during the year, and the jail at this station is as complete as can be desired; ample accommodation and healthy accommodation being provided for both convicted prisoners and those under remand and for female prisoners.

(7) A handsome addition was made to the clerks' room at the kachchéri, giving more space and light, which were much needed.

(8) A filter bed was built in the reservoir at Ratnapura, being part of the work (*a*) noted in my report for 1886.

(9) The trace of the road from Kukulégama to Idangoḍa on the Kalu-gaṇga was completed by Mr. Robertson of the Public Works Department, and was at once cleared to a width of 4 ft. by commutation labour. This is a most important outlet for the Kukulu kóralé, and opens up the largest villages in that kóralé.

(10) Several minor improvements, additions, and repairs to Government buildings and rest-houses in this District were carried out.

V.—PLANS FOR IMPROVEMENT OF THE DISTRICT.

41. The chief need in this District is undoubtedly a more effective irrigation policy than that which now prevails.

42. The improvement and development of the Kolonná kóralé and of the other Binṭenna villages in the Aṭakalan and Mẹḍa kóralés has been my chief study since I have had charge of this District.

There is, as I have stated before, no part of the Western Province which has been so long neglected and for which so very little has been done. The climate is notoriously unhealthy, the water for half the year is stagnant and unfit for any use whatever, the food supply is scanty and entirely of one description of fine grain, the heat is excessive, and the hovels in which the villagers live are the smallest and dirtiest I have ever seen. It is not surprising, therefore, that the occupants of these villages should be stricken down by paraṇgi and fever and unable to improve of their own efforts their unhappy condition. An extremely fertile soil is the only advantage that they enjoy, and which tempts them to remain in that locality.

43. A liberal treatment of this kóralé in the matter of irrigation is what is chiefly necessary, and if this be conceded I doubt not that in a few years we shall witness as successful a return as is now experienced in the North-Central Province, where the same conditions as those now prevailing in the Kolonná kóralé once obtained—and I write from long personal acquaintance with each district. It is cruel to refuse votes for irrigation in such a district because the works proposed cannot at first presentation to the Board be proved to be financially remunerative, though I firmly believe that they carry with them the seeds of future financial success which is, and must be, dependent on the physical condition of the people for whom the works are executed.

44. The sinking of wells in the villages has been a great boon to the inhabitants, and the supply of pure water will of itself do much to improve their health.

45. From the vote of Rs. 487 allowed by the Board for minor irrigation works, I was able to get several small ẹlas repaired by the removal of rocks, the construction of more permanent amuna, and the use of elephants for dragging and hauling stones and timber, which would have

been quite beyond the power and means of the villagers under their own communal irrigation rules. Among such works were—

				Rs.	c.
	Kuruwiṭi Kóralé.				
Kosgoḍa-ęla	...	...	...	11	25
Pussęllé-ęla	...	...	...	80	0
Tęmbiliyana-ęla	...	...	...	18	64
	Nawadun Kóralé.				
Uḍakaḍa-ęla	...	...	...	49	87
Nárangoḍa-ęla	...	...	...	23	86
Amuwala-ęla	...	...	...	57	25
	Kaḍawatu Kóralé.				
Uḍawela-ęla	...	...	...	99	98
Męḍawela-ęla	...	...	...	59	49
			Total ...	400	44

A renewal of this vote every year will be of the greatest assistance and encouragement to the villagers. Care is taken that no money is given for earthwork or usual repairs within the power of the villagers.

46. I have sufficiently indicated in remarks made under previous sections the other plans which I have under consideration and in progress for the improvement of this District.

VI.—WORKING OF THE GRAIN TAX ORDINANCE.

47. There was no difficulty in recovering the grain tax in Sabaragamuwa during last year, but had I pressed for the recovery of the tax in the villages of the Męda and Kaḍawatu koralés there would have been great distress caused and a large number of lands must have been sold. There were 392 lots sold altogether with a total extent of 44 amunams 2 pelas 2¼ kurunies, and the amount of tax due thereon of Rs. 165·35. Of these, 57 lots, on which a tax of Rs. 11·50 was due, having in extent 3 amunams 2 pelas 5¾ kurunies, were bought in for the Crown; these, it will be possible no doubt, to retransfer to those in default.

48. It must be remembered that in sales in this District the sale almost invariably represents a share, the lands having been entered in that way by the Grain Commissioner in 1881, and very few entire lands of any value ever come to the hammer. In the revision of the present register, which has already taken place in Kuruwiṭi kóralé, and which is now proceeding through the rest of the District, the lands are being entered more in accordance with the directions of the Ordinance—*i.e.*, in parcels of land—and each entry will in future represent a real extent of land and not as now an undivided share.

49. The Grain Tax Ordinance has certainly not given satisfaction in Sabaragamuwa, and many more sales of land have taken place under it than would have been the case had more time been taken in the preparation of the registers. The people regarded it as a register of title, and all lands which had ever been cultivated at any time with paddy were entered. The owner would pay the tax one year, but would not pay it in subsequent years as he took no crop, and consequently it was sold, and probably, being of no value, was bought by the Crown.

50. These lands having all been restored at Her Majesty's Jubilee, the Crown no longer benefits by this doubtful transaction, and at the revision the owner will be more careful how he enters lands in the new register.

51. There is no doubt that to ensure a satisfactory commutation the Grain Commissioner must have plenty of time, and must, as far as possible, visit every village, and further, that the commutation should be preceded by a survey, and should be on real and not assessed sowing extent.

52. I still adhere to my opinion that Sabaragamuwa is not a District in which the system of compulsory commutation should have been introduced, and that the renting system, carefully watched, was the best suited to the condition and requirements of the population. Introduced as it was exactly at the time when coffee failed and all the native gardens ceased to yield, the effect on the District has been most disastrous.

VII.—SANITARY CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

53. The sanitary condition of the people of the Kuruwiṭi, Nawadun, Kukulu, Kaḍawatu, and the hilly parts of Aṭakalan and Męda kóralés has been very favourable during the last year. Fever prevails when the north-east rains commence to some extent, but the food supply is varied and the water supply excellent and abundant.

54. The Ratnapura hospital meets the surgical needs of the inhabitants of the Kuruwiṭi Kukulu, and Nawadun kóralés, and fever powders and other medicines are distributed on the application of the Raṭémahatmayás.

55. The Kolonná kóralé and Bintęnna of the Aṭakalan kóralé is under the special charge of an itinerating medical officer, and Mr. Paulesz, who has held the appointment, has discharged his duties in that trying climate with great fidelity, interest, and energy. The dispensaries and quarters built at the expense of Government in those kóralés are of the greatest assistance to the villagers, and enable him to make visits every month through each kóralé, each halting station being a centre for visits to outlying villages. During the year I find from his diaries that he treated 2,812 patients for fever and ague, ulcers, paraṇgi, &c.

56. A separate Medical Officer was sent for fever duty in the Męda kóralé towards the end of the year.

57. Paraṇgi hospitals are much required in the District. His Excellency the Governor has very kindly promised to meet the expense of constructing one at Balaṇgoḍa for paraṇgi patients in the Męda kóralé, and I hope to get one built also at Kolonná, to be under the supervision of the itinerating medical officer, by village communities labour. By these means, and by the gift of better water from the wells annually sunk, and of better food which a liberal irrigation policy will, I trust, soon place within their reach, we may hope to see the inhabitants of the Bintęnna among the most healthy and prosperous in the Western Province.

VIII.—CRIME.

58. I am glad to report that serious crime has abated in Sabaragamuwa during the last year. There were only two sessions of the Supreme Court held at Ratnapura as against three in 1886, viz., in May and October. At the former ten cases were presented for trial from this District, two of which were for murder, in one of which sentence of death was passed. At the October sessions six cases from this District were committed for trial, two again being for murder, one of which resulted in an acquittal, and the other in a conviction on the less serious count of culpable homicide not amounting to murder and a sentence of six years.

59. Capital sentence was carried out on two criminals during the year within the jail on January 3 and on June 23.

60. Cattle-stealing has certainly decreased very considerably. Cattle-killing is on the increase.

61. Petty thefts of produce are very much on the increase, and I think an itinerating native Magistrate would do far more good in suppressing crime of this nature than a President with a fixed court, and give far more satisfaction to the villagers.

IX.—HEALTH OF CATTLE.

62. There has been no murrain among cattle in the District during the year. Hoof-disease breaks out occasionally, but is not of a serious or permanent nature.

X.—NEW AREAS UNDER CULTIVATION.

63. Owing to causes noticed above, it is hopeless to expect any extension of the area of cultivation in Sabaragamuwa, either among natives or Europeans, until a better title to land can be secured. In the old coffee districts of Rakwána and Balaṇgoḍa tea has taken the place of coffee, and its cultivation promises a future of great prosperity for Sabaragamuwa if more land were brought into the market.

XI.—NATURE OF WORK OTHER THAN ROUTINE.

64. Much of my time has been spent in travelling through the District and informing myself of the wants and requirements of each part, and especially of the more distant villages. The extent and natural features of this District, and the necessity of having to take entire camp furniture to the villages on coolies' heads, there being no cart roads worthy of the name beyond the main trunk roads for wheeled transport, make travelling in Sabaragamuwa more laborious and tedious than in many other Districts, and as only a certain amount is allowed for transport each year it is only at the end of three years that I can speak with any confidence of the District. The appointment of a Writer to this kachchéri has been of great assistance to those who have business at the kachchéri in my absence, as well as to me personally in the supervision of the ordinary routine of office work.

65. Roughly speaking, the administration of the Road Ordinance occupies attention for nearly six months, the next three are taken up with the collection of the grain tax and grain duty, and the last three months of the year with the arrangement of the village communities' labour, while petitioners of all kinds and all degree of veracity are with us all the year round; daily supervision of the Jail and Local Board, Fiscal's inquiries, divorce cases under the Kandyan Marriage Ordinance, and land inquiries filling up any intervals of time that a revenue officer may be able to find at his disposal.

XII.—EVENTS OF INTEREST.

66. The chief event during the year was of course the celebration on June 28, 1887, of Her Majesty Queen Victoria's Jubilee, of which I have already submitted a detailed report.

67. A Local Board was established at Ratnapura in May, 1887, and the police in charge of the town were removed, the Local Board undertaking to take over their duties and to provide its own local headmen for the protection and due conservancy of the town. The change has worked remarkably well, and the cost of a very expensive force saved to the owners of property. A policeman costs a town Rs. 327 per annum; a local headman, equally useful though not so handsomely apparelled perhaps, costs Rs. 120 per annum and finds his own quarters, light, &c.

I have recommended the extension of this principle to Government to rural towns such as Balaṇgoḍa, Rakwána, Avisáwélla, &c.

FORESTER FOR SABARAGAMUWA.

68. In the course of the year I brought under the notice of the Government Agent the necessity of securing the services of a competent officer as Forester for this District. I regret that no appointment has yet been made, and that no funds have been set apart for the protection and conservation of forests, specially in this District. For the last three years no Forester or any officer of that Department has set foot in Sabaragamuwa, although it is the most thickly forested part of the Western Province, and from the great variety of climate and soil prevailing can be throughout its area contains the most valuable kinds of timber, including calamander (which from want of preservation is extremely rare), ebony, satinwood, palu, nedun, and many others. It is impossible for the revenue officer of so large a District to do more in his short circuits than exercise a very hurried supervision over the forests, and their protection is therefore for the most part left to the zeal of the minor headmen who, as an unpaid class, are under very strong temptations to abuse this confidence.

Further, under the new forest rules the felling and removal of timber in any shape is surrounded by so many difficulties that it is absolutely necessary to have a separate staff of Forest Officers to enforce the rules, but not a single penny has been voted to Sabaragamuwa for this purpose.

69. Having a very intimate knowledge now of three Districts of the Western Province, I have no hesitation in asserting that Sabaragamuwa is the richest in forest and the most important to protect, and should therefore have had the priority of consideration in the distribution of funds and officers from the Forest Department. Two of the largest rivers in the Island take their rise in the villages under the Peak, and the conservation of forests at their source and along their source should be a matter of interest to the Forest Department. I trust that next year will witness a more generous policy towards Sabaragamuwa in this respect.

GENERAL.

70. In January Mahawalatenne Bandá was appointed Acting Ratémahatmayá of the Atakalan kóralé and Rambukpota Ratémahatmayá, who had held that appointment for a few months since the death of Jayasundara Ratémahatmaya, in 1886, was promoted to the office of Acting President of the Gansabháwa in the Kuruwiti kóralé, vacant by the removal of Mápitigama Bandá to a similar appointment in Three Kóralés and Lower Bulatgama.

71. Wárigama Bandá, who had held the office of Basnáyaka Nilamé of Alutnuwara Déwále, died towards the close of the year.

72. A conference of chiefs and others interested in paddy cultivation was held at Ratnapura in February, and rules for the better enforcement of customs regarding paddy cultivation were discussed and drawn up, being subsequently adopted in each kóralé at meetings held by the Ratémahatmayás.

73. His Excellency the Governor visited the Kolonná kóralé in the early part of February, entering the kóralé from the south-east boundary at Jiulangeté and passing through Embilipitiya and Walalgoda to Maduanwela, where the Ratémahatmayá received him. Sir Henry Ward visited Gongala and the hill district of the Kolonná kóralé adjoining Morowak kóralé, but this was the first visit of any Governor of the Island to the Bintenna of that kóralé.

74. Mr. E. J. H. Christie of the Public Works Department went home on leave from Pelmadulla in April and was succeeded as District Engineer by Mr. C. A. Lovegrove of the same Department. The section of road from Ratnapura to Avisáwélla also passed into the hands of Mr. Fernando on the promotion of Mr. J. MacDonnel to Haldummulla.

75. Mr. J. W. Gibson was succeeded in November by Mr. Booth as District Judge of Ratnapura.

76. I regret that the Police Court at Balangoda has not yet been re-opened. My proposal that it would be opened on January 1 last, and that a session should be held there in alternate months with the court at Rakwána by the Police Magistrate of Ratnapura, was approved by Government and a suitable building was put in order for the first session, but at the very end of the year orders were received cancelling the arrangement on the ground of the additional expenditure to be incurred. I hope it will be found possible to sanction the expenditure in 1889. The court-house at Rakwána is now wholly unfit for occupation. Its situation is most inconvenient, and when the new court-house is built, for which an estimate has been submitted, it should be erected on the Government land in front of the old resthouse.

77. I annex a statement of Births, Marriages, and Deaths in the District during the year :—

Kóralé	British.		European Descendants, &c.		Sinhalese.		Ceylon-born Tamils.		Ceylon-born Moors.		Cooly Immigrants.		Others.		Marriages registered.	Marriages dissolved.
Births.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		
Kuruwiti kóralé	2	0	1	1	380	350	5	1	1	2	2	0	1	0	181	5
Nawadun do.	—		—		350	301	4	1	1	2	2	2	—		89	9
Kukulu do.	—		—		96	115	—		—		4	9	—		115	0
Atakalan do.	—		1	0	235	236	0	1	1	0	6	6	—		68	3
Kolonná do.	—		—		152	129	—		—		15	22	—		242	0
Meda do.	—		—		207	213	2	0	5	4	3	3	—		100	7
Kadawatu do.	—		—		184	128	1	1	—		30	26	—		52	2
Deaths.	2	0	2	1	1,604	1,472	12	4	8	8	62	68	1	0	847	26
Kuruwiti kóralé	—		2	2	376	326	3	0	3	2	26	11	—		—	—
Nawadun do.	—		—		389	308	1	0	1	0	6	4	—		—	—
Kukulu do.	—		—		80	77	—		—		6	6	—		—	—
Atakalan do.	—		—		315	302	1	0	1	0	5	9	—		—	—
Kolonná do.	1	0	—		142	109	4	0	—		11	18	—		—	—
Meda do.	—		—		274	290	1	1	5	4	6	2	—		—	—
Kadawatu do.	—		—		175	169	2	4	—		21	15	—		—	—
Total ...	1	0	2	2	1,751	1,581	12	5	10	6	81	65	—		—	—

Other statements of statistical interest have already been sent in, as also my report on the working of the Road Ordinance and of work done by the District Road Committee during 1887.

HERBERT WACE,
Acting Assistant Government Agent.

Ratnapura, April 21, 1888.

Extracts from Diary.

March 8.—Left Ratnapura for irrigation circuit in Bintenna of Helapalle paláta of Meda kóralé, a part of the District I have not yet inspected. Breakfast at Mádola. Sent in report on petition against Gansabháwa in Kuruwiti kóralé and attended to other papers. Decided five Gansabháwa appeals.

P.M. to Balangoda, where met Eknelgoda Ratémahatmayá and Morahela Bandá, the newly-appointed kórála of Meda kóralé.

March 9.—Walked to Bówatta, eight miles—two miles along minor road to Lankábarana estate and thence by village path. I found in course of my walk that the old Kandyan path has been abandoned because it has not been cleared up for so many years, and the present path goes twisting in and out of paddy fields and gardens along narrow ridges, &c., in a most annoying way. The old path was a good one, and was used at one time by British troops, at the time of the rebellion, when they occupied a fort at Rájawaka. I came at length to the old road where the new path joins it near Bówatta, and I have directed the headmen to have this path cleared this year under the new village council rules. It is the only outlet for tavalams transporting paddy from the Diyainné fields and chena produce from the Bintenna, and it is a valuable line to keep open.

On my way took special note of the line of the proposed channel for diversion of waters of Dorawęlla-oya, near Balaṇgoḍa, into the stream which flows to the Diyainné range. This is one of the irrigation works I desire to bring under notice this year. An anicut must be constructed above the Balaṇgoḍa resthouse across the Dorawęlla-oya, and a channel cut between the two streams. The stream into which this water is to be diverted is called the Telessankandure-oya, and the path to Bówatta joins this oya about three miles from Balaṇgoḍa and follows it more or less all the way to Bówatta, and thence to Diyainné: indeed, it is more commonly called Diyainné-ęla than by the other name. It supplies water on its course to several fields at Walakumbura, Moraula, and Bówatta, but in consequence of the unusual drought of this year there has not been enough water in it for the maha cultivation. As soon as the junction with the Diyainné-ęla has been effected nothing more remains to be done, the latter stream having a natural course to the point to which we want to take the water.

Raṭémahatmayá pointed out on the way chenas the crops of which had suffered much from the unusual drought: the Indian corn quite dead and the kurakkan much stunted in growth.

At Bówatta stayed in house of the gaṇ-árachchi. The Bówatta wasam consists of seven villages: Aldora, Goḍakumbura, Patulpe, Bówatta, Rájawaka, Aṭalewęla, and Kaluwęlpé, with 106 houses and 127 amunams of mud land. Out of 116 persons in the division officer's list, 101 paid this year, 6 were exempted, 2 sick, leaving 7 only to work,—a good return, and a considerable advance on last year when 80 paid and 35 were left to work. On my way selected site for new school which is to be built in this wasam for children in this and Damahana wasams.

March 10.—To Diyainné, nine miles, a good deal of which is rough and steep descent to the Bintęnna. Leaving Bówatta passed through Goḍakumbura, in which the caste of blacksmiths live who are famous for their handling of red-hot iron, but had no opportunity then of witnessing their skill. Saw some frightful cases of paraṇgi. Path goes through some good forest after leaving this hamlet. I noticed a good many pihimbia trees, and requested Raṭémahatmayá to secure me some seed for planting in Ratnapura and elsewhere, for this is a most ornamental tree: the wood is very good also and is much used for ploughs.

Before commencing the descent to the Bintęnna there is a most magnificent view from a rock (Belungala, marked on the plans) over the whole of the Bintęnna across the Kolonná kóralé to Hambantoṭa and the sea. The view is the more striking as you come on it suddenly from thick forest.

The descent to the Diyainné village is very abrupt - about a mile of it clean down. When you get to the fields and village below you see the Diyainné-ęla leaping clean over the range you have just climbed down, with a grand fall into the village. When the stream is full in rainy weather the effect must be very fine. There are altogether 106 amunams already taking water from this ęla, or (say) 250 acres. If the Dorawęlla-oya can be turned into the ęla and the supply increased and insured, not only will constant cultivation be secured, but a further extent of Crown jungle of 300 acres can very easily be asweddumised; and there are several applicants for the land.

In the course of the day I inspected the old tank, the bed of which is now cultivated. It can never have held up enough water for all the land irrigated, but it has been breached in two places. I do not recommend, nor is it the desire of the landowners, that the tank should be repaired. The filling of the channel by the waters of the Dorawęlla-oya will be quite sufficient, and will enable the cultivators to secure regular cultivation. I also inspected the old Galge viháré in this village. It was abandoned for several years, and the 20 amunams of mud land which the Crown now holds in this village came to the Crown by rejection of the Temple Lands Commissioners. A petition has been given about this matter lately by the priest of the Asgiriya monastery, to which it belonged, for the restoration of these lands. A priest has now been resident at this viháré for about ten years, but it was utterly neglected previously, and was robbed of some of its best images and offerings. This is a notoriously unhealthy village, and the owners and cultivators of the chief part of the lands do not reside in it, but come from the upper villages. Chena cultivation abounds on all sides. Three villages form the wasam: Diyainné on the lower level, Piyangiriya, and Molamure on the hill. Fifty houses in all. The division officer has done well this year: recovered at Rs. 1·50 from 92 out of 97 on his list, 3 exempted, 1 died, leaving 1 only to work.

March 1.—To Uggalkaltoṭa, twelve miles. A very hot walk through the Bintęnna, partly in forest, chiefly through hena. Path leads first to the Walawégaṇga at Kóngahamaḍamankaḍa and then skirts the river more or less all the way, the Diyainné range forming a wall on the west stretching on to Kurugala and Tanjama, the Bintęnna of the villages of Diyainné and Kaltoṭa forming a flat about twenty miles in length and about ten broad. Between this range and the Walawé-gaṇga the soil has a good reputation for fertility. I saw tobacco with a very fine leaf growing in one or two enclosures watered from the river. Satinwood, palu, and wira trees are to be found in the forests here, and fine kumbuk along the river. About three miles from Kaltoṭa the path crosses a stream called Gónakanduré-ęla, near which I was informed were remains of an old máligawa and stone houses, but as path and jungle had not been cleared I was unable to inspect them. Will make a report on them at next visit.

At Kóngahamankaḍa is a sacred tree called by the natives "Mádára," which is visited by Brahmins and Hindus. They also remove the bark and leaves. I have sent a twig and a seed to Dr. Trimen for identification as I do not know the tree. It has a very red heart like dark ironwood. The villagers also state that an elephant will not go near or touch the tree.

Kaltoṭa I found to be as hot as any other place I know even in the Bintęnna, and the eye-flies were so awful that I was very glad to go out again at 4 o'clock to inspect the site of the old Kandyan dam across the Walawégaṇga and the old channel. The reconstruction of this work has been much pressed upon my attention, and after examination I know of no work likely to be more useful or remunerative. The old channel is in very fair order now: it is a mile in length, and irrigates now 70 amunams. Tradition runs that 700 amunams were irrigated on each side of the river from this work in ancient times. There is nothing to prevent the same extent being now cultivated on this side if the anicut is repaired. I have already received application for 250 acres. On the rocks in the river can be seen the places cut in them for the timber beams of the old amuna to be fastened. The villagers find great difficulty in maintaining the channel near its junction with the river. Much water was wasting when I saw it, and there are some bad leaks in other parts of the channel, which is also much silted up. I strongly commend this work to the notice of the Central Irrigation Board. Its success is certain; the water supply is inexhaustible; the land is waiting for cultivation; persons of substance are waiting to take up the land as soon as water is given; and I am informed that cultivators also in abundance are ready to come over from the Uva side. If these two schemes—Diyainné and Kaltoṭa—are taken up, we shall substitute a certain rice supply and good water for the present uncertain kurakkan and chena produce and filthy water now consumed by the villagers, and we shall be able to gradually prevent chena cultivation in this part of the Męda kóralé, for the lands now cleared as chenas will annually become paddy fields. All the land available for cultivation is Crown, sale of which will alone pay a large amount of the cost of the work. Applicants propose they should be allowed to take up lands at Rs 10 per acre payable in ten instalments, subject annually to water-rate of Re. 1 per acre and one-fourteenth tax. I think it reasonable to extend some preference to residents in the district in disposing of the land available for cultivation, and have submitted the demand to Government Agent for instructions.

March 12.—To Mulgama, 12 miles, reclimbing to the upper ranges. Reached Tanjama first—a large plateau on the summit of first range, now given up entirely to héna cultivation; formerly the site of two tanks and fields, now only two houses in the village and 9 amunams of mud land cultivated from a stream and rain water. In one of these houses went to see all that remains in this kóralé now of a once thriving industry—cloth-weaving. Saw a cloth being made, and left an order for some more. Saw the whole process, from the preparation of the thread from the cotton-pod, which is done by the women of the house. Collapse of industry attributed gravely to the refusal of Government to allow forests to be cleared to grow cotton, which will not grow on ordinary chena land, to the total oblivion of Manchester goods and machinery, which have really destroyed this industry. The cotton they use is now bought in the bazaar, the thread, before being used in the shuttle, being well soaked in lime juice. I asked if they could make any of the old patterns in the old colours, but they have quite lost this art. The Mahawalatęnna family have a granary in this village for produce of Kaltoṭa fields. Crossed another very steep range and reached pleasanter quarters at Mulgama.

March 13.—At Mulgama. Wrote reports on Diyainné and Kaltoṭa irrigation schemes and forwarded same to Government Agent. Attended to other correspondence in arrear. Division officer's return for this year is good—84 out of 93 paid, 7 exempted, 1 paid elsewhere, 1 left to work. Mulgama wasam consists of the following villages: Ugalkaltoṭa, Gallęllétoṭa, Tanjama, Wégunapaṭṭiya, and Mulgama, having a total of 48 houses and 200 amunams of mud land. I was glad to find a school in this village independent of Government, started and taken care of by the principal family in this village: attendance of about ten children. I directed headman to secure attendance of more children under new village council rules.

Inspected Mulgama tank in the afternoon. Much good would result from repair of the breach of the bund of this tank, and it will be by no means an expensive job. The tank lies between two hills, the bund thrown across the valley. It is fed by a constant stream. The breach is beyond memory of any villager. Thirty-five amunams of mud land are now cultivated in the village, 7 of which are abandoned for the last five years on account of want of water. If the bund was repaired to hold up water, all this extent would be annually cultivated, and 15 amunams of new land would also be irrigated. It is all private land. I trust this work will be taken in hand also. A sluice should be provided, and slight masonry repair also to the channel. The Iddamalkanduré-oya gives a further supply to the fields by meeting the channel from the tank. Owners of land are willing to pay Re. 1 per acre in perpetuity for the cost of work to Government. The Banḍá states he petitioned about this work eight or ten years ago. Some of the fields sown for maha in this village are, I noticed, dying. I was shown gardens planted with coffee which had been fields under the old tank.

March 14.—To Kumbalgama, in the Kaḍawatu kóralé, another very rough piece of travelling. Leaving Mulgama I climb up the patana land to summit of a hill called Násdanḍuhéna, from which I had a most glorious view of the Maha Éliya, Haputalé, and Uva hills with low forest-covered hills, and Walawé-gaṇga in foreground and away behind to the Bintęnna.

There are equally steep descent to the river and ascent again to Kumbalgama. The crossing of the river is very easy at this dry season, but it is very dangerous in the rainy months, and the Raṭémahatmayá tells me there has been much loss of life in the river in consequence. This is the only route to the Bintęnna from Uva and upper villages of the Kaḍawatu kóralé. I should like to see a wire suspension bridge clung across. It is impossible to put up any édanḍa, the bed of the river is so wide and so rocky, and the force of the river when swollen so great. I hopped down the rocks on the river for about half a mile and found a good place for such a bridge, where the banks are high and rocky and the waterway is not so broad, and I will ask for estimate to be submitted for a wire bridge at this spot. If it is not too expensive it would save many a life and tend much to assist transport between the two kóralés. Kumbalgama is a village in the Kinchigune wasam of the Talpiṭagam pattu of the Kaḍawatu kóralé, and adjoins the Province of Uva.

March 15.—To Bilihul-oya, a walk of about eight miles to join cart road, two miles above the resthouse. On the way selected site for new school at Muttęṭṭuwégama, which is to be constructed immediately by the headmen. Raṭémahatmayá applies for a vote for improvement of this road, which is very much used by persons from Uva and all travellers and traders into the Bintęnna. He states a sum of money was promised by Mr. Templer in 1884. I will consider it with votes of 1888.

July 7.—Started on circuit in Kukulu kóralé, which I have not visited for fifteen months, and now intend to give three weeks to it. Drove out to Kurugammódara (ten miles) and then walked over new extension to Nambapána, two miles to Kiri-ęlla. Road complete and all bridges ready for use, one more mile under progress, and then estimate for this year will be exhausted. I hope next year will finish it right out to Nambapána, and then Ratnapura will be accessible in all weathers.

Inspected new gaṇsabháwa at Kiri-ęlla and Government school, at which 52 boys present. The gaṇsabháwa is a good building now of sawn timber and tiled roof, but some additional verandah posts are necessary, as those already in position do not support the wall-plates properly. This must be attended to at once, and I have written to the Disáwa.

Crossed river at new ferry established this year across the Kalu-gaṇga in conjunction with that at Kurugammódara, and entered Kukulu kóralé at junction of the new trace from Kukulégama with the river. Walked along it for one mile to my quarters. Idangoḍa is a hamlet of the temple village Galature belonging to the Potgul viháre in Náwadun kóralé. Eleven hamlets altogether in Galature with 77 houses and 125 men paying poll-tax. There are fifteen paṇgus in the village and five more which have now lapsed as "malapálu" to the viháre, and are annually leased by the incumbents to the villagers or to outsiders. There is another hamlet (Kuṭṭikanda) belonging to the Galature árachchi, which is not temple property but is a kóralégama. The new trace is a great advantage to the people of this pattu, being the only path available in high-water time. I shall devote as much labour and money as I can spare annually to its improvement.

July 8.—To Ęllélaṇga, in Dumbara, six miles down the river, at the foot of the first rapid between Ratnapura and Nambapána. Crossed the river and went over new road to Nambapána in course of construction. Three and a half miles now complete, leaving six and a quarter to be made. There are three very fine bridges near Kiri-ęllé—abutments ready, ironwork not yet received from Colombo. Work under this year's vote will cease at end of this month.

At Dumbara inspected the plumbago pits from which the Kiri-ęllé viháre (or rather the relations of the incumbent) have received such an enormous income for fifty years. The pits are now being worked and yielding well. The widow of the late Muhandiram continues to take one-eighth under virtue of lease to her late husband by the incumbent of the temple, his brother. She has no right at all, and the priest attempted to resist in court, but a compromise has been made. Oh! for the Buddhist Temporalities Act! Nothing has been done by the temple in this village: no roads, no education, no improvement of any nature; and villagers tell me the temple does not allow them even any high land to their paṇgus—only fields and gardens—taking chena lands at half and one-fifth, asserting that such was the decision of the Temple Lands Commissioners. I do not understand this, and must refer to the registers on my return. If true it is certainly very hard, and even unjust.

Examined árachchi's road tax accounts, which are satisfactorily closed for this year, except two absent from village. Nearly all paid.

Inquired about recent murder in this village. It seems that the house of the murderer was robbed last March. He went to court and his complaint was referred to the Raṭémahatmayá, who says he sent for the parties, but the complainant refused to come, saying that he wanted an investigation by the court. No inquiry was held and no report made by the Raṭémahatmayá to court. Raṭémahatmayá says he delayed in order to visit the village. Complainant subsequently took the law into his own hands and murdered the person he charged with the robbery. I think the Raṭémahatmayá is much to blame, and tell him I consider his delay has apparently caused this serious crime. But I dislike the system of referring complaints in the court to the Raṭémahatmayá unless a very close watch is kept for the report. In many cases (like this) the petition is sent for report and perhaps never seen again. In this case, after the murder the Raṭémahatmayá sent in his report.

Villagers apply for a road from here to Ayagama. I shall see proposed line of road to morrow.

July 9.—To Gawaragiriya. Left at 6 A.M. and reached quarters at 11 o'clock. Road very steep and rocky and difficult for coolies to transport baggage. The árachchi proposes to take road above flood-level along range of hills on side of valley opposite to present path, which in high-water cannot be used at all, and he asserts he can find a very good trace. I have promised him Rs. 50 to make the trace through Dumbara. Galature árachchi to continue it through Kuṭṭikanda and Gawaragiriya árachchi to Ayagama, where it will join Mr. Robertson's new cart road trace.

At Kuṭṭikanda. There are good plumbago pits which are now being worked It is extraordinary that a better road for transport of plumbago to the river has not yet been made.

I find bone manure is used in the fields at Dumbara, purchased at the riverside bazaars. It is so little used in Sabaragamuwa that I am glad to find its use anywhere. No doubt with better roads it would be used

everywhere. Eleven paṇgús in Dumbara village—and the viháre has two muttettus of one amunam and one péla and two malapala paṇgús in its sole possession and management. All these hillsides have been chenaëd to destruction and scarcely a yard of forest remains—bambu everywhere.

July 10.—Remained at Gawaragiriya. The árachchi has not many more men to send to work—74 altogether on his list, of whom 23 paid I prefer the labour to the money in this kóralé. The want of a road and outlet is shown by the fact that the villagers go all the way to the Horana bazaar, in the Rayigam kóralé, for rice and barter—over the hills into the Pasdun kóralé and across the Kalugama by Jayasúriya Mudaliyar's new road to Horana. They tell me a man can go one morning and return the next evening. Rice is a shilling a bushel cheaper at Horana than at Kiri-çlla at the riverside in Kuruwiṭi kóralé. Now the new road from Nambapána will place cheap rice and supplies within easier reach, and the new roads now opening through the Pallé pattu of Kukulu kóralé will enable the villagers to reach these bazaars and return in one day.

I am sorry to see so many cases of paraṇgi in this village. Do not understand it: water is plentiful and excellent, and food varied. Inhabitants of village chiefly Jaggery caste. Very little mud land—only about eight amunams. Forest almost nil.

July 11. To Ayagama, six miles. First part of road steep and rocky, latter part level. Joins Mr. Robertson's trace from Idangoḍa to Kukulégama at this village near the pansala. Went along new trace for some distance to inspect. Near Ayagama it comes into an unpleasant amount of rock, to take path through which will require a considerable amount of gunpowder. But beyond that I understand there is not so much rock.

Stayed at the pansala, which has much advanced since I was last here in February, 1886. The priest is a native of Ayagama and deserves countenance, this being the first temple ever opened in Ayagama. The trace passes round back of pansala to save the garden just half way here between the Kalu-gaṇga and Kukulégama. An excellent site here for an ambalam and some day for a resthouse on bank of a large pool above a rapid formed by junction of two streams.

Met here all headmen of Pallé pattu. Labour lists almost exhausted. I find all people present are very thankful for the new trace and most anxious that it should be annually improved. Indeed the difficulties of communication between villages in the Pallé pattu and the outside world are very great. Now, an easy road of ten miles will help them all considerably. Held meeting of inhabitants of this pattu to adopt rules as in other parts of Sabaragamuwa under the Village Communities Ordinance. Read out the rules, and those present adopted them. Also elected a committee for the pattu. Villagers apply for a school. I tell them the children ought to go to the pansala. I hope under the new Ordinance every pansala will be bound to keep a day-school for boys in its village at which attendance should be compulsory. No sickness in this village. Vaccination was carried on last year.

Ayagama consists of two villages, Ayagama and Arambégama, the former containing 8 hamlets with 52 houses, and the latter 2 hamlets with 8 houses only. There are only 9 amunams of mud land in the whole village. Fields are very unfertile. Prevailing caste, Jaggery. Bazaar supplies drawn from Kiriella and some from Rayigam kóralé bazaars. Paragala wasam in this pattu contains 5 villages and 16 hamlets with 72 houses and about 22 amunams of mud land. Fields at Nikagoḍa cultivated twice a year by water from Millamulendiya-çla.

Family of smiths at Uḍugala also seem to work for whole pattu. Children of Pimbure and Nikagoḍa go to new school at Kukulégama, but school required in this wasam also.

Gave notice of cancellation of sales to Crown of lands in default of payment of grain tax. The question now arises, Is tax to be recovered on these lands for the rest of present commutation? I think not, and that the cancellation should take effect from end of present commutation only. See my letter to Government Agent.

Examined registrar's books. I find my recent order to secure better registration of marriages has had a good effect, and a large number of notices is now being given.

July 12.—To Kukulégama, twelve miles, half over new trace and half over old path. And oh! the difference! A good édanda will be required to cross the Mahagama gaṇga on leaving Ayagama. In one or two places rock abounds, but for the most part the road is easy making. Overseer Mayes doing good work with the Ordinance labour, and has now only four miles to complete, which I hope he will do before end of current month. The last two miles of the new trace run through very easy country, and I do not propose to do more than follow existing path, which is excellent and only wants raising across fields at Nikagoḍa. The difficult piece is between Paragala and Pimbure. I shall certainly apply for a grant of money for blasting and removing rock along this trace. The District Road Committee cannot really find the money. Government takes two-thirds of commutation from Kukulu kóralé although there is no principal road in that kóralé at all, and as far as I know no Government money has ever been spent on roads in villages in the Kukulu kóralé at all. On the way visited new school at Kukulégama recently built by headmen and villagers. Thirty-seven children in school, which, considering there are no rules in force to compel attendance, is, I think, good. Teacher is a nephew of Delgoda Raṭémahatmayá and large landowner in village. At Kukulégama the new trace joins main of communication between Ratnapura and Pasdun kóralé, being exactly 19¼ miles from the river at Idangoḍa. Stayed at árachchi's house.

July 13.—Went over proposed irrigation works in this village which I am anxious to bring forward. They were fully inspected and reported upon by Mr. Saunders and Captain Woodward in 1869.

The Kukulé-gaṇga which flows through this beautiful village—the finest in the whole kóralé—divides the large plateau of ówiṭi land lying between the ranges of hills running north and south of the village. The one tract of ówiṭi can be irrigated by water from the Koswattté-gaṇga, a tributary of the Kukulé-gaṇga, on the east, and the other tract of ówiṭi can be irrigated by water from the Weṇwa-gaṇga, a tributary of the Kukulé-gaṇga, on the west. Both these streams join the Kukulé-gaṇga within a few yards of each other at the extreme end of the village. It is difficult to conceive more favourable conditions for the irrigation of ówiṭi land. Each tract consists of certainly not less than 200 acres. The lands are now cultivated (as usual with ówiṭi land) at intervals of seven or eight years with dry paddy, and at less frequent intervals with sweet potatoes, &c. In each stream there is a favourable site for an anicut, and the channels offer no difficulties, and for the most part would run along the foot of the skirting range on either side, necessitating only cutting in earth. I hope to see the work taken in hand, and after holding a meeting of villagers and landowners concerned will bring the scheme before the Provincial Irrigation Board. I know it is a scheme in which Mr. Dawson took great interest when he was Assistant Government Agent of Ratnapura. In the afternoon went through árachchi's road tax list, and granted a few exemptions. He has still a good number to turn out next week. Minor inquiries, &c.

July 14.—Walked to boundary of kóralé at Dunakeyyágala, ten miles. Excellent trace of road through the hills: perfectly easy for carts were roads and bridges provided. At Dunukeyyágala the Pasdun kóralé begins, and there is a distance of four miles untraced between this point and the nearest cart road at Baduréliya, to which point I advanced the cart road when Assistant Government Agent at Kalutara in 1882. It is of the greatest importance that the roads should be joined, and the villagers are naturally anxious to see this done. It is impossible to take a pingoload even over those intervening four miles, and the villagers are put to much trouble to transport bone manure for their ówiṭi and fields and get up bazaar produce. I shall apply at once for a grant for this small piece of work. The tracing would cost more than Rs. 250, and I only wish Mr. Robertson, who is now doing nothing would be sent to take up this at once. There are three grants I want for this kóralé: (1) Bridge over the Karawiṭa-gaṇga; (2) Junction of road with road at Baduréliya: (3) Removal of rock along road from Idangoḍa to Kukulégama An estimate for Rs 3,000 has already been prepared for No. 1. It provides for certain and safe traffic at all seasons on this road between Ratnapura and Pasdun kóralé. The cost of No. 2 will not exceed Rs. 250, and will complete the line of communication between the two districts. They are both of great importance, and I do trust I shall see both in the sanctioned estimates of 1888. On return to village held meeting of all landowners and cultivators interested in the irrigation works I inspected yesterday. I find a decided opposition to any arrangement that will bind them to pay any fixed sum annually—even to pay such a small sum as a rupee per acre. They are willing to pay the Sabaragamuwa rate of one-fourth whenever they cultivate, but will not bind themselves to cultivate regularly on the same extent annually. They state their lands will be sold and become the

property of Moormen and low-country men, that the lands are not fertile and they have to use bone manure. I am disappointed at meeting this opposition, and after much discussion we agree to postpone their ultimate decision till Monday at Delgoḍa. It is evident they all want the water and would very gladly have the work started, but they do not wish to consent to any arrangement which will entail sale of lands on default of payment of water-rate. I quite sympathise with this feeling, and should like to meet and help it, but under present system there is no alternative. A considerate collection of the water-rate would meet it to a great extent, Government waiving it or allowing it to stand over for one or more years till a good crop was realised, or Government putting in an anda cultivator to secure water-rate and not absolutely selling the land. We seem to have no course in recovery of revenue and water-rates, &c., than the most extreme one of selling the lands of the defaulter.

July 15.—A.M. at Kukulégama ; P.M. to Kalawána. Six miles of good level road in good order, édanḍas only in some places requiring repair, and the roadway itself at Tapasserakanḍa.

July 16.—Walked to end of road in Kukulu kóralé towards Ratnapura through Tiniówiṭa and Wéwęlkandura to the boundary at Delwala in Nawadun kóralé, and which is four miles from the Karawiṭa gaṇga, where I want the bridge. The road is a good cart road trace throughout, used for trade and pingo traffic ; but many villagers take a short cut clean up and down the Kuruwiṭikanḍa, which saves at least four miles. Wéwęlkandura and Handurugala are Crown hamlets, having still a little forest left. I have given strict orders that no chena cultivation whatever is to be allowed to the west of the stream flowing through Wéwęlkandura. I see chenas gradually creeping up into the forest, and there is plenty of land the other side east of the stream, where there is a clear defining line like this. It is advisable to use it. The view from the gap over the Nawadun kóralé over Pebotuwa, Nivitigala, and Kuruwiṭa shows nothing at all but chena. This piece of forest will be valuable. The soil in Wéwęlkandura is good, and arecanuts and gardens look very well. Examined árachchi's list and granted a few exemptions. A'rachchi reports gemming on a Crown land. After inquiry and proof produced I directed prosecution in Police Court. Applicants for the purchase of the land : so Raṭémahatmayá ordered to send in printed application for early survey. Settled dispute about cultivation of Crown land Pitaḍeniya Handurangala. A'rachchi states thirteen men died of dysentery in this village last March. I had sent the dispenser from the hospital to attend to cases, and his treatment was successful in most cases. The árachchi and villagers attribute it to the decay of a plant called "kotalu," which grows in the stream at that season. Certainly only that part of the village which uses this stream for drinking purposes suffered from outbreak. I have desired him to select a good site for a well, and I will apply for a gránt from Government for its digging. This is the third outbreak in ten years of the same disease, a large number of cases proving fatal on each occasion. Of the thirteen cases this year five were males, and all but one under twenty-one years of age. Of the women, only one was married. Villagers apply for power to cultivate rejected temple land without permission : license has now to be obtained and tax at one-fifth is recovered. I tell them I cannot without reference to Government Agent allow cultivation without license, but that I will reduce taxation to one-ninth until I have communicated with him on the subject. The question affects a good many villages in Sabaragamuwa, and I think myself that the rights of the Crown have in these villages been extended beyond their just limits. Certainly, Government having reduced taxation in Gabaḍágama to one-fourteenth it is unreasonable to maintain it in rejected temple land at one-fifth. I chose one-ninth because it was the intermediate rate once fixed by Government Agent and approved by Government.

Forwarded letters to Government Agent for (1) grant by Government for removal of rock on road from Idangoḍa to Kukulégama ; (2) extension of present cart road trace from Dunukeyyágala to Baduréliya in Pasdun kóralé. Sister of Kalawáne árachchi is married to Maḍuanwala Raṭémahatmayá.

Sunday, July 17.—A.M. at Kalawána ; P.M. to Delgoḍa, four miles. The road to Delgoḍa has been taken on an entirely new trace by the Raṭémahatmayá and overseer Mayes, which is a great improvement, and the former hilly path has been abandoned. The new trace was cut last year by commutation labour. A good édanḍa is required over the Koswatté-gaṇga at Koswatta.

Stayed at Raṭémahatmayá's office at Delgoḍa ; his real home is at Elamalpé in the Aṭakalan kóralé. Delgoḍa was granted to the ancestors of Delgoḍa Disáwa in Kandyan times. Sannas not in existence, but stated to have existed. However, Delgoḍa has been treated as a nindagama for several years, and services are registered. The village is now in possession of the Raṭémahatmayá and his three brothers, one of whom is registrar of the whole kóralé and also lives here. There is an old walawwa in the village.

July 18.—At Delgoḍa. Headmen of Meda pattu all present. Held village council meeting of inhabitants of this pattu and adopted rules as in Pallé pattu and elected a committee for the pattu The people present—88 altogether exclusive of headmen—approve of the rules, and only ask that there shall be no gaṇsabaháwa instituted. I explain to them that the rules provide for nothing but the old Kandyan gaṇsabháwa of the Raṭémahatmayá and three or four leading villagers as a council. Examined lists of division officer of Delgoḍa and granted such exemptions as were required. Division officer has still labour to turn out. He can complete his list this month. He has three defaulters of last year in the village unarrested, for which he is reprimanded and ordered to produce them forthwith. There is very little default, as a rule, in the Kukulu kóralé.

Cultivators and landowners of Kukulégama present as arranged on the 14th instant. Tennakón Mudiyanseláge Kiri Baṇḍá, who represents forty amunams, and Delgoḍa Baṇḍá, who represents ten amunams, and some others, now state they have reconsidered the matter and are ready to agree to pay the water-rate of Re. 1 per acre, but would like also to know the total cost, if perchance they can pay it in ten annual instalments I promise them I will now report the work to the Government Agent and Irrigation Board, and ask that an officer may be sent to inspect the scheme and estimate full cost, when I will call them together again to decide finally upon terms of repayment. All are perfectly willing to pay one-fourth. I suggest to them the following alternative to recovery of water-rate by sale of the land, viz., that if a landowner make default one year he be put out of possession of that land the next year altogether, and Government put in a cultivator (the owner himself perhaps) at anda, Government taking the water-rate for both years out of its anda share, and restoring any surplus to the owner of the land after paying all expenses incurred. The Government share would be sold by auction. I explain that this would obviate sale of land, though it would give Government no little trouble. The villagers approve of the suggestion and think it would work well. I will bring it before Government Agent officially.

Examined registrar's books. Here also effect of recent orders has been to secure registration of numerous marriages. It is evident the requirements of the law were being much neglected.

Received accounts of last month from kachchéri for signature. I feel the removal of Mr. Hellings from the kachchéri a good deal : when on circuit every day I am followed by a heavy tappal, most of which could be disposed of at the kachchéri by the Writer. It hampers one's work so in the villages to be tied down to a file of letters of ordinary routine. And then to clear up and verify the kachchéri books and ledgers after a long circuit like this is an additional "joy on return !"

July 19.—To Weddágala, four miles. Road in good condition and an easy trace. Examined division officer's lists and granted exemptions. Recovered also arrears of grain duty outstanding from 1886. Raṭémahatmayá and minor headmen are to blame for allowing removal of crop before payment of Government tythe. Nothing is more difficult to recover than the grain duty on hénas if not paid before removal of crop, for generally the name of cultivator entered is that of a person possessed of no property, and who of course refuses to pay. The árachchi of this village has been taking too much upon himself in the cultivation of Crown lands, cultivating them and then asking for permission to do so. I have given him a scolding and a warning that will, I hope, benefit him.

July 20.—To Potupiṭiya, twelve miles. Road is along a fair trace, but is not in good condition, and árachchi has not executed the repairs and improvements I pointed out to him in February, 1886. At Gangalagomuwa, Panapola, and also at Potupiṭiya, there are some places which are so bad that they make the road almost useless for through traffic. The head overseer I have now got for the District Road Committee will be very useful in travelling and seeing attention paid to the orders given. This árachchi is a useful man and has done great service in opening this road, but he requires supervision. He can neither read nor write beyond signing his name, but does all his work well and quarrels freely with all other headmen. The Siṇgharája forest is within three miles of Panapola, half-way

on this road. I find that Hapugoḍa, which is claimed on a sannas, extends into the forest, the southern boundary, Siṇhagala, being also the boundary between this district and Máta-a district in the middle of the forest. The sannas is said to be in possession of Elapáta Baṇḍá, Muhandiram, who owns one-fourth of the nindagama. I never heard of any claim to Siṇharája forest before, and must investigate this claim. There is, as usual, no forest left in this part of Kukulu kóraḷe, but I am told there is the other side of the range into the Siṇharája.

Potupiṭiya division officer has not turned out labour yet Ordered him to do so from August 1 on road between Panapola and Potupiṭiya and between Potupiṭiya and Rambuka. Granted a few exemptions and recovered arrears of grain duty. Villagers want a school. Will arrange about establishing one after visiting Rambuka. Recovered arrears of grain duty due for 1886 in this division. Potupiṭiya wasam includes the tea estates Rawreath, Beaconsfield, and Dolekanda.

July 21.—To Rambuka, ten miles. On the way inspected Weḍḍágala árachchi's new trace from Kehelwatta to Cyprus estate, being a short cut to Rakwána for all persons from Weḍḍágala and Potupiṭiya wasams. It took me exactly an hour to get to the Cyprus estate, and as the part of the road is very steep I put the distance at three miles. It is certainly a very useful road, and I will take it over on account of the District Road Committee and keep it up and improve it. But I think a deviation can be made to Depdene estate, which will save some hill and afford a still more direct route to Rakwána. I will see about this on Saturday. Retracing my steps to Kehelwatta, I resumed the road to Rambuka and got to the village at about 10.30. A very pretty village with clumps of green and yellow bamboos along the banks of the stream which winds through the valley. Signs of gemming on all sides, this being a favourite resort.

After breakfast held meeting to pass village council rules in the Uḍa pattu of this kóraḷé and to elect a committee. No opposition expressed or evinced. These rules will now be in force throughout Sabaragamuwa and will, I am convinced, do much to further the progress and improve the condition of the villages. There is no reason why the rules should rouse antagonism and become unpopular. And the petitions submitted to Government against them in other kóraḷés after adoption are merely the result of ill-feeling and evil actions of a few vile petition-drawers and outdoor proctors.

Examined division officer's list and granted exemptions. Arranged for work to begin on August 1 for improvement of road between Kehelwatta and this village and Rakwána through Depdene estate, the other road being of no use to this village. Recovered arrears on grain duty and settled a few complaints. Villagers being all very anxious to prevent plucking of green arecanuts, a rule to prohibit such plucking was adopted and added to the village council rules. Villagers complain that Moormen and low country traders come in and receive the stolen arecanuts, leasing a few trees as a mere pretence. I strongly recommend a license tax on all these so-called traders: compel them to pay Rs. 5 or Rs. 10 for a license, and they will be careful. Moreover, the Assistant Government Agent would not give a license to traders if of no substance and character, and at the same time I told the villagers that although I travel about a good deal I never have a thief brought before me for punishment, and that unless they take the trouble to look after their gardens and catch the thieves, not all the rules in the world will protect them. They think making a complaint and a rule will frighten the thieves. It won't do so at all, and so I tell them. Health in this village good, and indeed throughout Kukulu kóraḷé, except fever in Pallé pattu. Potupiṭiya villagers also want a school, there being no pansala in whole of the Uḍa pattu; so I have arranged that a school is to be constructed at Potupiṭiya as soon as I can get promise of a teacher; and I have written to Director to-day about it.

July 22.—At Rambuka, attending to correspondence and closing circuit work of the whole of this kóraḷé. Explained to Raṭémahatmayá new rules about hén cultivation and rules under Forest Ordinance. I have placed the duty of inspection and supervision of chenas on Crown lands entirely upon the Kórála and Raṭémahatmayá, leaving to the Muhandirams of each pattu the supervision and assessment of chenas on private lands. The Kórála of the kóraḷé has not had enough work to do the last year. This work and the new village council rules will, I hope, keep him well employed in future. The Raṭémahatmayá of this kóraḷé seems to be smarter and more attentive than he used to be. He is too kind to his headmen and they take advantage of him; but he is the first Raṭémahatmayá that has ever had the sole charge of the kóraḷé, or who has ever resided in it and taken any personal interest in its advancement. Although his nindagama is really in Atakalan kóraḷé he deserves well of Government, and will do his best to help future schemes of improvement. I am glad to be able to record a more favourable opinion of him than I expressed two years ago. The chief thing that Kukulu kóraḷé wants is good roads and through communication with Pasdun kóraḷé by cart road. The new trace to the river from its centre will be of great service, and if the connection is made with the road in Pasdun kóraḷé two most valuable openings will have been provided. It is a very healthy kóraḷé, and the people always strike me as having more energy and independence than any other natives of Sabaragamuwa,—a feature no doubt due to their almost entire freedom from services to landlords, &c. I especially commend irrigation schemes in Kukulógama to favourable notice.

July 23.—A.M. to Depdane estate, 5 miles; P.M. to Rakwána resthouse, 9 miles. Road from Rambuke to the estate has to be improved this year with the commutation labour of 1887 to turn out on the 1st proximo. From the estate to Rakwána it is a good bridle road requiring two bridges to be repaired. Extensive gemming operations going on upon Everton and Botiaṭenna estates, under lease from their owner, at usual rate of one-fifth; and I hear with good success in gems at each place.

There is a bad landslip on this road, about five miles above resthouse, and there is a good deal more to come. Mr. Perera points out a trace he can take the other side of the hill altogether. He will make this trace and clear it for my inspection before any District Road Committee funds are expended on it.

July 24.—At Rakwána. Correspondence and tappal.

July 25.—I saw Maḍuwanwala Raṭémahatmayá at 8 A.M., and went through papers fixed for inquiry here with him. Cultivators of hén in the Bintenna represent that the amount allowed—four acres per family of five—to hén cultivators under forest rules for Western Province are utterly insufficient for kurakkan. Hén in the Bintenna, where an amunam represent 40 acres. One seer has been found to sow one acre. One bushel should be allowed for each individual. I decided to allow extent usual in former years pending approaching visit of Government Agent, to whom the matter will then be submitted for his instructions. After breakfast took up work with the Raṭémahatmayá of Aṭakalan kóraḷé (Mahawelatenna) to recover police tax of town of Rakwána. Much resistance shown to payment of this tax. I explained again to all present the arrangement by which Government paid for one police constable, the bazaar for one, and the estate for one, and that that arrangement was final. The bazaar being a small one the rate is rather high (8¼ per cent.), but that is the fault of the excessive cost of the police; and next year, after the definition of the new limits of the town, it will no doubt be possible to reduce the rate. I think an extension of the principle of the Local Board system into small towns in Ceylon would be advantageous. The police are not popular, are of doubtful use at a distant station, and are very expensive. If Government took powers to assess a bazaar on such town for payment of local headmen we should be able to secure the services of a good officer of position in the place at a cost not exceeding Rs. 180 a year. This cost would be scarcely felt in a small town, and the officer being under more immediate and constant control of the Assistant Government Agent would be more efficient than the police constable forty miles away from a seldom-inspecting Inspector. It is true that under the Village Communities Ordinance inhabitants of any place can assess themselves for maintenance of a headman, but it is practically impossible to secure this unanimity in the mixed population of a bazaar, and consequently no use can be made of the provision of that Ordinance. I recommend an Ordinance for this object.

Inspected house and ground round same used by Police Magistrate at this place on his monthly circuit. House in very good order, but grounds most dirty and overgrown with weeds; fence all broken down. Evident that bungalow-keeper, who is paid Rs. 12·50 a month, does not consider it part of his duty to repair fence or keep grounds clean. It looks very discreditable to Government to have a place like this in the middle of tea estates (or for the matter of that anywhere), and I propose to apply for construction of a strong sawn wooden fence round the ground in place of present jungle-stick fence. The court-house is really no longer safe, and I urge that the estimate for new court-house prepared last year be included in estimate for next year. P.M. to Mádampé.

July 26.—A.M. inspected work done by commutation labour on road towards Hambantoṭa as far as

Goḍakewella. Have now got three working parties in this road and one on road from Balawinna to the Medagan-oya. The new head overseer, Mr. Perera, is of great assistance in securing more efficient work from the village labourers. I think after the Nambapána extension has been completed Government should take up the road from Mádampé to Hambantoṭa, providing culverts and bridges annually until the whole road is available for cart traffic.

After breakfast examined all division officers' lists and accounts and arranged for future employment of labour. The Aṭakalan kóralé gives more trouble in turning out than any other part of the District, and I have directed the new Raṭémahatmayá to give more personal attention to this than before.

The vidáné of the Durayas at Mádampé tenders his resignation. He does not get on with the new Raṭémahatmayá, or *vice versâ*. I fancy the young Raṭémahatmayá enforces observance of caste laws which his predecessor was not very punctilious about, and the vidáne had assumed position of an árachchi; being now denied this, he resents the change and refuses to work. I declined to accept his resignation, and desired Raṭémahatmayá to do his best to work with the vidáné as he has been long in service and commands influence among the Durayas, who comprise greater part of inhabitants of Mádampé. Attendance at Mádampé and Goḍakewella schools is now good. P.M. to Pelmaḍulla.

July 27.— P.M. to Ratnapura. Road under repair throughout and now in good order. Inspected work at Ketandola anicut on my way in. Good progress made and stonework now well above bed of river. I should like to know the total cost in this stream.

August 26.—At Bilihul-oya. Headmen of Kaḍawatu kóralé present. I regret to hear that the old Galagama árachchi, one of the last links in this District between the Kandyan times and the present, is very ill and supposed to be dying He must be over eighty, and was a fine old Kandyan.

I find equal failure of crops in this kóralé, but no cases of total failure except on Hatarabáge. There is, however, want of food in consequence of the failure of the last chena (kurakkan) crop, and relief must be given in Muttettugama and Hatarabáge wasams. So the Raṭémahatmayá will open relief work on the road from Muttettugama to the Uva-Bintenna at Kosyála, a useful thoroughfare. Inquired into petition to Government of Balahami, of Hatarabage, against Menika, for causing death of his son Pinhámi by shooting him. It was a pure accident, and Menika was discharged after full inquiry both by the Deputy Coroner and the Magistrate. I examined petitioner and the vidáne and others: can find no trace of any previous animosity between the parties, and petitioner himself assigns no motive for it. So I think there is no room for any doubt that the man was properly discharged. This is however the second person whose death Menika has caused by a careless use of firearms; and I have ordered that he be not allowed to use any gun at all in future.

Also inquired into petition of Mohottala, of the Boltumbe déwálé, against the Basnáyaka Nilame of that Déwálé, in his presence. My sympathy is in this case entirely with the Basnáyaka Nilame. The Mohottala is a drunken scoundrel who has mortgaged all his paṇgu and refuses to give services due. As he has possession of the keys, the Basnáyaka Nilame is unable to get the necessary repairs executed, and naturally declines to be responsible for the safe custody of articles of value in the déwálé; but as the law stands the Mohottala cannot be removed from office at all, or deprived of his paṇgu, except by courts of law in a case in which he can produce any amount of false evidence against the Basnáyaka Nilame. The Basnáyaka Nilame gives me the number of a case in which he has spent two years in trying to get judgment for default of services rendered. These matters cry aloud for amendment, and I do trust that the next session will give us a law to deal with these abuses. It is a most humiliating position for a revenue officer to see these abuses prevailing under his very nose, and to be unable to provide a remedy or to punish the offenders. Boltumbe déwálé ought to be especially rich, but scarcely any tenants perform services, and yet remain in full possession of their lands paying no taxes to anyone. Dealt with all warrants under Ordinance No. 31 of 1884 still outstanding in these kóralés.

August 27.—Walked up to Horton Plains. Left at 5 A.M., reached resthouse at 10.20. Road in good order, having lately being repaired, but the pull up from 1,700 ft. to over 7,000 ft. in 15 miles necessitates rather severe gradients. District Engineer Mr. Lovegrove went up with me.

I find the grounds round resthouse much improved under Mr. Farr's supervision, and in two or three months the flower garden will look extremely well. The paths require gravelling, which I have authorised him to undertake. Resthouse and furniture in good order: few repairs required, which I have written about to Provincial Road Committee. The new big room is most useful for gentlemen bringing their own beds. This resthouse is more used now than any resthouse in the Province. Weather on the plains lovely.

August 28.—Sunday.

August 29.—Inspected roads towards boundary and arranged about site of new bridge with Provincial Engineer and diversion of bridle road from Haldummulla to present resthouse. Existing road goes to site of old resthouse and gives an additional distance of at least three-fourths of a mile to travellers. Settled alterations in grounds and new paths about resthouse with Mr. Farr, and directed kórála to construct a wattle and daub shed behind resthouse for storing of firewood and bedding for horses, which it is very difficult to obtain dry here in the wet months.

August 30.—Walked down to Haldummulla, thirteen miles, by bridle roads in charge of Public Works Department. A capital road all the way, but views from it are not, in my opinion, so fine as those from the Bilihul-oya approach road.

August 31.—Returned to Bilihul-oya, thirteen miles, at Gurukandure-çla bridge, which is my District boundary on this road. Muhandiram and árachchi met me and pointed out that the overseer had diverted the water from the channel, taking water to the Yakkumbura fields for the purpose of mending the main road. The crops were suffering from being deprived of the water. I immediately directed them to break down the overseer's dam and turn the water again to their irrigation channel, and on my arrival at resthouse wrote to the District Engineer, Mr. MacDonnel, reporting above facts, and requesting him to deal with the overseer, who was not present when I passed by.

At Bilihul-oya I met Mulgama Baṇḍa and those interested in the restoration of the Mulgama tank, and examined them on the points raised in the Provincial Engineer's report. The estimate is for Rs. 5,360, a large sum for so small a work; but in a year like the present year of drought its restoration would certainly have saved the crops that have died. Mulgama Baṇḍa is not willing to pay more than a rupee per amunam per year. In this village an amunam is about an acre, as in Kinchigune. I will submit my report to the Government Agent.

The villagers of Mulgama asked me to take over on behalf of Government the school which they have voluntarily supported for some time. The school is being kept in the árachchi's house. It is well to encourage such efforts, which are very rare in Sabaragamuwa, and I have submitted the application to the Director with my recommendation that on a proper school being built the teacher be paid by the Department.

Halpé árachchi informs me that people have turned out to work on the relief road, and rice has been given to those in want in the wasam—women and children.

Ellávala Raṭémahatmayá reports a case of forcible entry on Crown land at Amuwala for the purpose of gemming, that he went out with the Inspector of Police and drove them away, and has instituted cases in the Police Court. The land is claimed on some alleged lease from a villager. I will inspect the land as soon as I return to Ratnapura. Have applied to Government Agent for Rs. 487 for expenditure on small irrigation works in Kuruwiṭi, Nawadun, and Kaḍawatu kóralés, out of vote of Rs. 1,000 allowed for this purpose; work to be done is removal of rocks chiefly and repair of temporary headworks. I have more works of this nature in contemplation, but I want to inspect them.

In consequence of the distress in Kaḍawatu and Meda kóralés I have directed the Raṭémahatmayá to suspend the working of the new village council rules this year as far as regards labour on the roads.

September 12.—Left Aigburth estate and walked though Gilgarron, Deveronside, Lauderdale, and Caledonia estates to Gongala, where I stayed for breakfast in the old bungalow. The view from the Gongala store is one of the most beautiful and extensive I know. The estate is now abandoned, save for a little tea being tried on the higher slopes, and it is sad to see such a well-built store lying unused with valuable machinery for coffee pulping, &c., still in it. In the afternoon walked on to Hayes estate, through Kolonna estate, Kellekanda, and Butkanda. Reached Hayes estate at 5.30 P.M.

In Gongala estate the villagers spoke to me about cutting a channel through part of the abandoned estate to turn a stream into the Yakmadu-ela in order to increase the supply for the field at the foot of the hill at Kolonna. It was apparently an old channel, and when the estate was sold no reservation was made. They said the superintendent in charge objects to their cutting it again. I spoke to Mr. Dunbar about this afterwards, and he is quite ready to allow the villagers to open the old channel. He will meet the Raṭémahatmayá and villagers on the spot after I leave the kóralé and arrange for the execution of the work.

At Butkanda. I settled site of an ambalam with Raṭémahatmayá and inspected lands recently surveyed for sale and settlement in Kellekanda. Many of these encroachments are by low-country people from Mátara. Hayes estate is the finest estate in our kóralé now. It is a large block of over 1,200 acres. The tea has all been planted on virgin forest land, and the soil is extra good, and the greater part of the estate is well protected from wind. Mr. Dunbar has opened it all, and is about to increase the acreage in tea to 400 acres.

September 13.—Walked with Mr. Dunbar to our boundary, five miles from Hayes bungalow, and thence one mile on to Mr. Blatherwick's estate in Morawak kóralé.

Aningkanda. I had never been able to go over this piece of our road before. We are certainly very much indebted to Mr. Dunbar, for he has made the old trace into a most excellent 12-ft. road right up to the boundary, and has never asked the District Road Committee for a cent. A most unusual planter! It is of great advantage to the estate of course, but it is so also to our District in opening up such a good line of communication. I have promised him Rs 200 out of our vote this year, and will grant a sum annually for upkeep in future.

Another reason I came this way was to ascertain the exact distances and to find what support the planters would give to a through tappal service between Rakwána and Morawak kóralé. The distance between the two post offices is only thirty-five miles, and yet if a letter has to be sent from Hayes, Aningkanda, or Denivaya to Rakwána and Ratnapura it must travel round by Akuressa, Galle, and Colombo! The planters are willing to subscribe half cost, and Mr. Roberts generously offers to construct and hand over rent free for one year to Government a building for use as a post office on his estate. Maḍuwanwala Raṭémahatmayá will also subscribe to it. An office there will be a great convenience and saving to him with a large expenditure on irrigation works in the Kolonná kóralé. The opportunity this offers for quicker communication with the officers and surveyors in charge should not be lost sight of.

P. M. walked down to Beralapanatra, eight miles, where there is a resthouse in the Morawak kóralé.

Heavy rain and mists all these two days. During this round I saw and considered the proposed extension of cart road between Viháréhéna in the Morawak kóralé and Gilgarron in Rakwána. It will be no doubt advantageous to extend the road four or five miles in the Morawak kóralé towards the boundary, but I do not recommend its extension through the abandoned estates in Kolonná kóralé to Gilgarron until many other works of more importance to Sabaragamuwa have been carried out. If there be money for any road in Kolonná kóralé let it be spent in bridging the road between Mádampé and Hambantoṭa.

September 14.—Walked to Daponé, ten miles, through Kettewelle and Paligala in Morawak kóralé to Daponé in the Kolonná kóralé. Another good result of coming this way has been that I find the old direct path between Beralapanatra and our minor road at Daponé has been abandoned and allowed to grow up, enforcing a detour either through above villages or round by Urubokka. Maḍuwanwala remembers the old road and says it saves two miles. So I have written to Mr. Baumgartner, inviting his attention to the matter and asking him to have the old route re-opened (as it all lies in Morawak kóralé), and also to share half expense of the bridge over our boundary stream. Stayed at the hamlet called Kopokanda in Daponé.

Met the new itinerating medical officer here, whom I am going to introduce to the remote villages of the kóralé—Mr. Paulesz.

Attended to correspondence and despatched considerable tappal to Government Agent and the kachchéri.

Went over division officers' lists of this village and Doraponé and granted such exemptions as were necessary.

Doraponé árachchi asks to resign office. I do not hesitate to accept it, as he is most inefficient and lazy, and always shams sick.

Fields promise a fair harvest here. I am glad to find every one busy in clearing hénas for burning before the rains begin. I have been obliged to recommend the Dapone árachchi for removal from office. He has long been very unsatisfactory. He has not even a house to live in and has no property at all. He used to live in the pansala, but after recent death of the priest he has been turned out. I propose to find one árachchi for both Dapone and Dorapone, and to place a separate árachchi over Ullinduwewa, which is a village by itself quite on the other side of the range. These villages and Diyapoṭa and Omalpé, lying away on the upper range, have been rather left to themselves and earned a bad reputation, but cattle-stealing has ceased since Maḍuwanwala's appointment.

September 15.—Walked to Mulenḍiyáwala, twelve miles, a village right on the boundary of the Giruwá pattu, about eight miles north-west of Embilipiṭiya, which I have not visited before.

Went through Omalpé, Kemponé, Diyapoṭa, and Ganekanda, after leaving which village the descent begins to the Bintenna.

Good paddy crops in Omalpé, Kemponé, and Divapoṭa. A curious custom obtains in these villages, not known to me elsewhere, that the cultivator gives the landlord *madiran* (one rupee) for every péla of land he cultivates. If paid in kind, he gives kurunies of paddy. It is usually paid in kind now. This is in addition to the *anda* share to be given on cultivation, and is always given when the land is taken for cultivation.

Ganekanda I found to be a large and healthy village with good gardens, principally owned by Maḍuwanwala. There was a great crowd all round the maḍuwa we halted in, and I asked the doctor to examine the boys' arms to see if they had been vaccinated at all. Immediately there was a great stampede—all the children fled.

This village has no paddy land at all, and the people cultivate fields at Walalgoḍa and chenas in the Bintenna.

At Mulenḍiyáwala it is the same. The small tank there is breached and could never be of much benefit for the residents of these villages. The facilities for paddy cultivation at Panamuré under the new irrigation scheme will be an immense blessing. Mulenḍiyáwala is a very hot and dry place, and one of the new wells has been sunk here, and I found and used good water from it. This well will be of great service to the villagers, and should be lined at once.

I examined the division officers' lists and granted a few exemptions. Inquiring from the villagers, I find that they have to go to Tapgalla for their bazaar supplies, nearly forty miles. The road on the Giruwá pattu should be improved and opened to our boundary as an outlet. I wrote to Mr. Boake about this. A school should be opened here also for this village and the large village on the boundary, but I suppose no low-country teacher would have the courage to live here.

I find there are two Crown pangu in Helwala (also belonging to the wasam) and one at Mulenḍiyáwala, viz., Wellapulige pangu, and Kosgalayaya, at Helwala; Lande Kapuge, at Mulenḍiyáwala. The tanks and seven amunams under it and twelve amunams high land at Mulenḍiyáwala are claimed on a sannas by Don Andris Samaranayaka, of Helwala, who also claims the whole village of Helwala (except the Crown pangu above) and produces the sannas. The árachchi of this wasam also claims seventy amunams on sannas. Both of these claims must be investigated and the documents tested, as much as that is worth, which is not much! No services have been registered at all under either of these claims! There has been no paddy cultivation here for five years. The tank is now being repaired in anticipation of coming rains. The whole country this side is chena. The doctor inspected the village thoroughly from house to house and found people generally healthy. I stayed here in a temporary shed put up behind a decaying ambalam.

September 16th.—Walked to Embilipiṭiya, eight miles, three miles to Panamuré, and thence to Embilipiṭiya, crossing first the Hulanḍa-oya and then the Ketyan-ára, the only green lines of foliage throughout the march, rest being burnt-up chena scrub. No water in the Ketyan-ára, but a good stream in the Hulanḍa-oya. Came in by new road along bund of tank. Very little water in tank, but all fields above and below tank under cultivation.

Found Mr. Gunn at Embilipiṭiya, and in course of day District Engineer arrived.

Water supply in the well here is good, but none of the wells yet have been lined through—no one's fault, but owing to the great difficulty in getting people to come down and work in his kóralé and climate. But at last 10,000 bricks have been made and now only require burning. I gave an advance of Rs. 25 to expedite matters, and I trust we shall soon now get to work with this well and those at Tunkamé.

Another impediment now arises, namely, that the estimate sanctioned for lining wells specifies four particular wells ; only one of these is ready for lining. There are, however, others ready dug this year—one at Mulendiyáwala and one at Maḍuwanwala—but as these are not in the estimate the Public Works Department are not ready to line them. This is rather too much red-tape, and I have at once applied for orders to the Public Works Department to line any well that is ready at the time. If the new wells are not dug before the rains, they also will choke up again.

September 17th.—Went up to site of present amuna across Hulanḍa-oya, from which water is diverted to the fields at Ḗmbilipiṭiya, and where it is proposed to construct a permanent anicut. Also inspected site higher up which has also been suggested as a site, but it is only 10 ft. higher up, and if this site be selected a new channel will have to be cut. I think it much better that the old site and old channel should be adhered to and Mr. Gunn's work here closed. We should put in a good anicut, repair the breaches along the present channel, put in distributing sluices where required for the Módarawáné fields and Uḍagama tract, take the channel through the bund, cultivate the bed of the tank, and let the waters go on to the lower tract. The Hulanḍa-oya being perennial there will never be want of water, and there is therefore no need to store any in the tank. This scheme is now ready and the estimates should now be called for. I believe that with a good anicut and a sound channel preventing the great wastage which now goes on, we shall have abundance of water for all the present tracts. For the bed of the tank and for still fresh irrigable land I want levels run on to Tunkamé now, to see if we can get the surplus and tail water on to the tanks in that village, which is indeed much required.

Inspected well sunk opposite árachchi's house in this village. It was sunk last year, but bricks not being ready the sides fell in on the rains coming, and it must now be cleared out again. I desired the Raṭémahatmayá to set about this at once, and then as soon as the bricks are ready we shall see these two wells done.

After breakfast went over division officer's lists and granted such exemptions as were necessary. Very little labour from this division now that the commutation is reduced to one rupee. Held village council meetings and arranged for work to be done in this part of the pattu—*e. g.*, road from Tunkamé through Padalangala to the anicut at Liyangala-ela on the Walawé-gaṇga , (2) road from Panamuré to Mulendiyawala. Fixed burial places at Tunkamé and Ḗmbilipiṭiya. Impressed on headmen and committee men the importance of enforcing rule about keeping the compound within 10 ft. of houses clean and clear of jungle. Some attention to this rule is already visible.

Investigated charges against Tunkamé árachchi. He is a thorough bad lot, and must go. He has a brother-headman in Giruwá pattu, and the two together practise cattle-stealing. He makes no attempt to prevent chenaing of Crown lands, and pays no attention to Government orders. I have warned him and tried him for two years, but he thinks now we can't get on without him and that he can do as he likes, so I have recommended his removal to Government Agent and directed Raṭémahatmayá to call for candidates for the vacancy.

Examined the question how much land is necessary for a kurakkan chena. The new forest rules only allow one acre for a man ; this is, however, calculated upon "el-vi," and is not at all enough for a kurukkan crop. Taking an average yield of fifty-fold for one bushel sowing extent, we shall have eight acres' extent. These fifty bushels a man will distribute somewhat as follows :—

	Bushels	seers.
Two and a half seers a day (including curry-stuffs)	28	16½
For clothing during the year	16	0
For pots, chatties, and sundries	5	15½
Total ...	50	0

This is not more than is enough for a family of five yearly. I will make further inquiries from Raṭémahatmayás of Aṭakalan kóralé and Kadawatu kóralé.

September 18.—A.M. correspondence ; P.M. to Panamuré, six miles. Sent the doctor to Tunkamé in the morning to inspect the wells and to go round the village and report on the health. He told me on his return that the heat there was unbearable, that he treated several cases of paraṇgi, and that there was good water in one well. We must have a paraṇgi hospital for this kóralé, and before I leave the kóralé I will select a site and write about it to Government.

September 19.—At Panamuré. It is curious what a complete change of climate there is felt here although only six miles from Ḗmbilipiṭiya : the nights are quite chilly and the mornings delicious, while the heat in the day is not at all oppressive. The gardens grow arecanut and cocoanuts as well. In going about the village it is evident that it was well inhabited once. Old teak trees are frequent in the jungle, and as long as water was there for the fields it must have been very prosperous. I hope we shall bring back a great deal of this prosperity by the irrigation works now in progress.

Went over the north and south channels with District Engineer and Raṭémahatmayá and made necessary arrangement for execution of earthwork. It is unfortunately a bad month to find village labour, for every villager is as busy as possible on his chena. This is the month in which to burn them, and no work can be got till that is over. However, Maḍuwanwala can be relied upon to supply labour until then, and I think we can count on the channels being cut before the end of the year. As regards the anicut, the District Engineer is expecting a detachment of pioneers, and is collecting materials, and will soon be at work on it.

It is refreshing to see a start made at last towards the supply of water for paddy cultivation in these neglected parts of the Kolonná kóralé. I hope next year the headworks and channel at Kitalabokka-gaṇga will be sanctioned.

An old villager with us told me that several houses had disappeared and several families died out since he was a boy from want of water to cultivate fields. An attempt had been made once to repair the small tank Mullekumburawewa, but it had not lasted, and no cultivation under the tank had been possible.

September 20.—Walked on to Walalgoḍa and went over channel from headworks up to top of tract, the furthest track under cultivation this year, and a magnificent crop. Went along channel throughout and found as usual that the portions belonging to the Daponé and Walalgoḍa viháré (Dodampe Baṇḍá and Mabarana Kórála) had not been cleared at all. The guardian should have reported this. Instructed him and Raṭémahatmayá to notice them for October 1, and if work is not done then to get it done by coolies at their expense and send me the account. Went through division officer's lists for Panamuré and Walalgoḍa : labour account closed. The new bungalow constructed here is a great improvement on the old one the other side of the river, but it requires a table and chair, which I think I can spare from one of the resthouses.

September 21.—To Maḍuwanwala. Inspected work done on road from Kélla towards Makultoṭa-oya and Daponé *en route*. I am anxious to get this road through to the Southern Province as a cart road. The part done this year about a mile from Kélla is very good, and on the other side towards Maḍuwanwala and on to Erepóruwe-gaṇga a hand cart can now be taken easily, and in many parts a bullock cart.

On arrival at Maḍuwanwala about 8.30 A.M. I found that the Raṭémahatmayá had completed the well near the road, and that it was now in use. There has been much scarcity of water in this village, even the tank being almost dry, and the well will be a great boon. It has been well sunk to a depth of over 40 ft., and it has been done in three weeks,—an instance of the energy and despatch with which Maḍuwanwala carries out my orders.

September 22.—Inspected site of headworks and went over proposed channel for taking the water from the Kitalabokka to Ketigan-ára. The site for the anicut is excellent, as there is a natural reef of rock running across the stream. I cannot think the channel will be so expensive, as for two-thirds of the way it is already a natural water-course between high banks, and but for the heavy cutting at the junction with the anicut the actual earth-

cutting will be small, the whole distance between one stream and the other not being over a mile. Abundance of water going down the river. Engaged rest of day with headmen of Kolonnágam pattu. Went through all their division officers' lists and found labour closed everywhere, with very few defaulters except in the Bulutoṭa wasam, where the population of the plumbago pits is naturally constantly changing. Granted exemptions to those unfit for work, and sent three men to work on roads and one to jail for a month—an old defaulter.

Appointed headman for Daponé and Dorapona wasam and separate headman for Ulinduwáwa, for Government Agent's approval Directed Raṭémahatmayá to call for candidates for headmanship of Omalpe and Tunkamé and to bring to kachchéri Wrote to Government Agent to request final decisions in matters of removal from office of Dodampe Baṇḍá, Muhandiram of Diyapoṭagam pattu, and registrar of Padelangala. Numerous petty inquiries and complaints from women, &c. Held village council meeting and arranged work to be taken up in this pattu,—viz., (*a*) road from Balawinna to Maḍuwanwala ; (*b*) Tunkame to Liyangaha-ęla.

One hundred and fifty boys from the Kolonná school came and paraded in the walawwa compound, and went through their exercises. This school is certainly the best attended in the District, and the teacher is much to be commended.

Arranged with Raṭémahatmayá about work to be taken up on roads from Kęlla to Ęmbilipiṭiya and from Gilgarron to Butkanda.

September 23.—Aigburth. On way visited Kolonná school and medical dispensary, and selected sites for proposed new girls' school and paraṇgi hospital. I think this is the best place for it ; the doctor can make this his headquarters ; water is good and supplies abundant, while the quarters already erected for the medical officer will be very convenient for him and save expense of constructions elsewhere. The paraṇgi hospital here will meet the requirements of the Kolonná kóralé, and I think that the one I have asked for at Balangoḍa will meet the requirements of Męda and most villages of the Aṭakalan kóralé. I trust both will receive sanction. At the Erapóruwe-gaṇga found that the ambalam is now complete and finished with the customary high and low benches : it is a very useful building, and until the bridge asked for at this spot is constructed it is the only refuge for travellers who cannot cross the river in flood time.

December 15.—To Maḍuwanwala. Held sales of whole kóralé here and granted exemptions for next year from road tax. Selected new Muhandiram for Diyapotagam pattu and árachchies for Ulinduwawa and Tunkamé. Sales, as usual, very tedious and protracted here. The new register will, I trust, be a very different one from the old. I only wish the old renting system could be re-established in this kóralé. The sales occupied my whole time for three days and left me no time for other investigations fixed here, although we worked each day from 8 A.M. to 7 P.M. The difficulty of finding the owner of each small share and the greater difficulty of getting any money out of him for a share possessed once in about twenty years is inconceivable. I shall submit a special application for remission of lands not cultivated at all in Tunkame and other villages in that neighbourhood. There has been abundance of rain this year in the kóralé, and if only the tanks were in repair sufficient water would be held up in every village for the cultivation of the now long-abandoned fields. I do earnestly press upon the attention of the Irrigation Board and of Government the urgency of doing more for this kóralé next year. A beginning has been made at Panamuré, but how much remains to be done? The first thing is to turn the Kitalabokka river into the Ketigaṇ-ár, which will ensure annual cultivation at Panamuré. The tail water will flow on to increase cultivation at Ęmbilipiṭiya, and another channel should be cut from the Hulundu-oya to fill the tanks at Tunkamé, Padalangala, and Hinguruwęwa. This supply, in addition to the rains, will ensure a fair certainty of paddy cultivation in those villages of the kóralé where the people have not tasted rice for years. Immediate returns must not be asked for, but there can be no doubt of the ultimate benefit to a kóralé of which the soil is so rich and where population is at hand to take up the cultivation. The plans of the whole scheme must now be before the Irrigation Board, and no more time should be lost to take up the main scheme : the survey, repair, and sluicing of the smaller tanks should go on simultaneously. Above all, let the Irrigation Board recollect that January to September are the best months for work, so that early orders for the execution of any work sanctioned may be given. The well near the road at Maḍuwanwala is a great success and of great use to the village ; bricks are being burnt for its lining. The well at Miriswelpota in Kumburugamuwa progresses, and also at Pádalangala.

Sold crops of chenas cultivated on Crown lands in Diyapotagam pattu by people of Giruwá pattu. Without permission these people invade the Kolonna kóralé in defiance of laws and regulations and clear Crown lands at pleasure. I am determined to give them a bad time of it ; so I have seized the whole crops and ordered Raṭémahatmaya to enter Police Court cases against them. The people who clear the lands are merely speculators, and are not by any means in want. I won't allow any from Crown lands in Kolonná kóralé to be taken possession of in this way by people of Giruwá pattu The damage done in past years to the fine forests in that part is indescribable. Returned to Aigburth on Saturday evening and experienced on the way the importance of bridging the Erapóruwa-gaṇga. There was very heavy rain, and the stream rose so rapidly that I crossed with great difficulty, my coolies being cut off. The Raṭémahatmayá tells me it is not unusual for communication to be stopped for two or three days. The new ambalam above the river is a great convenience now. The road from the river to Bulutoṭa is being put in order prior to its transfer to the Public Works Department on the 1st proximo.

December 18.—Saturday, at Aigburth.

December 19.—At Rakwána. Held sales to close grain tax accounts of Uḍapattu, Kukulu kóralé. Very few sales in this pattu.

Went through police assessment lists of 1888 with Raṭémahatmayá of Aṭakalan kóralé, the new limits for town police having been defined this week by the Surveyor, Mr. Davidson. Inspected bazaar and old resthouse and stores in which petroleum is kept, and gave directions for construction of proper buildings for its storage before January 1 next.

December 20.—A.M. at Mádampé ; P.M. at Pęlmaḍulla. Inspected Government school at Mádampé and was much disgusted to find it so dirty. Cattle kept in verandah, and teacher's room also used for straw. As the Raṭémahatmayá's residence is in the same garden this is most disgraceful, and I have written to him a sharp reprimand and directed him to put the building in order at once and have a fence put round it. Detained at Pęlmaḍulla at night owing to breakdown of coach from Ratnapura.

December 21.—To Ratnapura. The road from Pęlmaḍulla to Rakwána is in good order, from Rakwána to Bulutoṭa it is in fair order, but the three miles on the top of the pass are simply abominable. The old metal stands out from the surface of the road in rough, sharp pieces, which are enough to harm any horse, and should actually lame my horse for some days. Nothing has ever been done to these three miles since I have known the road—*i.e.*, for thirty months—and the result is that all the blinding has been washed out by the rains and the bare metal left, the traffic along the road being insufficient to wear it down. I am very glad that the extension of the road is to be a gravelled road, but I wish the money had been voted for the lower road or for the roads in Kukulu kóralé. From Pęlmaḍulla to Ratnapura the road is very good for six miles, then come four miles of metal under consolidation and spreading, and then two good miles again.

Land sales at kachchéri of Crown mud lands at Walalgoḍa and a few high lands there ; no bid at all. The Raṭémahatmayá informs me people will not buy because the lands are subject to a rupee per acre (water-rate) per annum, and as the lands are not cultivated annually the payment is objected to, default in payment entailing sale and loss of land. I think it is a great pity that the Sabaragamuwa rate of one-fourth in kind whenever the land is cultivated is not levied in the place of the fixed annual rate of rupee per acre for ever.

December 24 to 28.—Christmas Holidays. On the 27th went out with District Engineer to visit the Damme irrigation works, special report on which has been called for upon application from the originator of the work, Iddamalgoḍa Basanáyaka Nilamé, for the works to be taken over by Goverment after fair remuneration to him. We went down the river about four miles and then landed at Raddęlla at the end of the main channel, following this up on foot for at least six miles to the headworks at Niri-ęlla. It is a very great work for one man to have undertaken, and parts of it have been done at great expense in most excellent stone masonry. On this the District Engineer will specially report.

The channel has another branch channel of four miles, which was never completed, to supply water for ówiţi lands at Maratiya-Dimiyáwa. The whole extent that could thus be irrigated under the channel is over 400 acres. Iddamalgoḍa never got water-rate from more than half of this extent, and even then he had to supply the buffaloes for ploughing, seed-paddy, &c. It is therefore not surprising that he gave up the work. I doubt the expediency of Government taking it up at the usual condition of paying water-rate at a rupee per acre. If we can take one-fourth and can ensure annual cultivation it would be another matter. The cost of repair will be very great, and there are certainly many other parts of the District in greater need of help from irrigation funds. It is curious to note from the kachchéri records that in 1847 Mr. Mitford visited this work and reported on it to Government in 1867. Mr Saunders did the same, and twenty years later I am doing it over again. Who will do it in 1907? I will submit my report after seeing Iddamalgoḍa at Pęlmaḍulla on the 10th proximo.

December 29 to 31.—Engaged at the kachchéri in closing revenue collections for the year. Arrack rent from July 1 to December 31 all paid up, and all toll rents but one (where renter pays at Colombo kachchéri) are settled for the year. Grain taxes are collected except in the Męda and Kaḍawatu kóralés, where, on account of famine, collections has been delayed and proposals made to Government for remission. Grain duty accounts are not so satisfactory, there being still amounts due for both maha and yala at the end of the year outstanding. This tax being recovered from the cultivators after assessment, and assessment being naturally impossible till after the crop has blossomed, it is difficult to enforce collection of tax before reaping of crop, and then the cultivator has probably little or nothing to pay from elsewhere.

The revised grain commutation of the Kuruwiţi kóralé is now closed, and gives the following result as against the last commutation :—

	1881.	1887.
Number of Entries	13,664	5,582
	Am. b. k.	Am. b. k.
Extent	2,187 2 9	2,526 0 7
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Annual Commutation	7,292 24	6,635 86
Crop Commutation	—	1,285 34
	7,292 24	7,921 20

The decrease in the number of entries is, I think, especially satisfactory, and more in accordance with the Ordinance. The remaining six kóralés of this District must now be taken in hand promptly, as the present commutation expires at the end of 1888, and unless two Grain Commissioners can be spared the revision will certainly occupy the whole time of one Grain Commissioner throughout the year. Kolonná kóralé must receive particular care and attention.

REPORT ON THE KĘGALLA DISTRICT FOR 1887.

THE following is an abstract of the revenue and expenditure of the Kęgalla District for 1887 :—

REVENUE.

Heads of Service.	Amount. Rs.	c.
Arrears of immediately preceding year :		
Licenses	1,000	0
Tolls	573	33
Total of Arrears ...	1,573	33
Revenue of the current year :		
Land Sales	21,919	17
Land Revenue.		
Paddy commuted ...	42,379	28
Dry Grain	2,174	60
Rents of Lands ...	109	66
Sundries	20	50
Rents, exclusive of Land.		
Tolls	6,852	19
Rent of Government Buildings and Houses ...	836	32

Heads of Service.	Amount. Rs.	c.
Licenses.		
Arrack, Rum, and Toddy ...	38,866	71
Sundries	100	0
Stamps.		
Revenue, Judicial, and Postage	13,215	54
Postal on Unpaid Letters ...	77	52
Fines and Forfeitures ...	2,052	94
Sale of Government Property.		
Timber	76	23
Sundries	70	75
Reimbursements ...	5,451	8
Miscellaneous ...	729	52
Interest	204	47
Special Receipts ...	198	30
Total ...	136,908	11

EXPENDITURE.

	Rs.	c
Establishments.		
Fixed Salaries ...	22,482	78
Provisional Salaries ...	9,366	88
Contingencies ...	594	41
Total Establishments ...	32,444	7
Pensions and Retired Services ...	235	0
Revenue Services ...	188	41
Administration of Justice ...	468	14
Charitable Allowances ...	388	50

	Rs.	c.
Hospitals and Sanitation ...	120	0
Prison Services	3,040	30
Transport	1,763	5
Total Expenditure .	38,647	47
Total Revenue collected ..	136,908	11
Excess of Revenue ...	98,260	64

Percentage which the Expenditure bears to the Revenue—28·2 p. c.

2. The revenue, as compared with that of the preceding year, shows a decrease of Rs. 102,162·31. In 1886, however, a sale of lands was held on a scale much larger than had ever previously been the case, the result being an abnormal increase in the receipts. The revenue of the year under review exceeds that collected either in 1885 or 1884, and presents no cause for dissatisfaction.

3. The receipts under the head *Land Sales* were normal, the average for the five years between 1881 and 1885 being Rs. 20,075·57.

The chief increase occurs under the head *Licenses*, namely, Rs. 38,966·71, as against Rs. 19,299·96 in the preceding year. It is attributable partly to a change in the system of Provincial accounts under which the instalments of the arrack rent of Three Kóralés were credited during the second half-year in the Kégalla kachchéri instead of in the Colombo kachchéri as had previously been the practice; partly to an enhancement of 44 per centum in the price of arrack rents of Three Kóralés and Four Kóralés for the year 1887–88.

Under the head *Stamps* there is a satisfactory increase, not in comparison with the unusual receipts from this source in 1886, the year of the extensive sale of Crown lands, but in contrast to the average of Rs. 9,796·97 for the five years preceding 1886.

There is a slight increase under the head *Arrears of Revenue* collected, and it is satisfactory to record that on January 28, 1887, there were no arrears of revenue whatever outstanding.

4. The collections of tax on Dry Grain were again considerably below those of the preceding year, the main cause being a continued restriction of the area allowed for chena cultivation, and a minor factor in the calculation being damaged crops. The rents of the tolls of the District sold for an amount smaller than that realised in 1886. The decrease under the heads *Reimbursements* and *Special Receipts* is contingent upon the fluctuation of the receipts from *Land Sales*.

5. The expenditure of Rs. 38,647·47 during the year was smaller than has been the case for ten years, the average of the preceding six years being Rs. 42,256·15. The decrease is mainly attributable to the economy effected in *Prison Services* owing to a cessation of the practice of committing large numbers of defaulters under the Thoroughfares Ordinance to prison. There is an apparent increase under *Provisional Salaries*, which is due to the transfer to this head of the salaries of the Presidents of Village Tribunals from the head *Administration of Justice*, which shows a proportionate decrease.

6. The percentage of 28·2 which the expenditure bears to the revenue compares favourably with that for 1885, namely 37·2. This should be further reduced by the sum of Rs. 2,129·31 which was earned in the District under the head *Timber*. The percentage of expenditure to revenue then falls to 28·07.

I.—FOOD SUPPLY.

7. The population of the District in relation to the food supply may be roughly divided into two classes: the peasantry and the estate labourers. The peasantry is almost entirely Kandyan, but includes also a small proportion of Moors, Siṇhalese from the maritime districts, and resident Tamils. With the estate labourers, for the purposes of this question, are classed the inhabitants of the roadside bazaars.

8. The amount of rice locally produced during 1887 is estimated at 225,075 bushels. The additional crops grown on chena lands are represented by 12,000 bushels of kurakkan, 23,500 bushels of amu, and 1,000 bushels of muṇ, menéri, raṭatóra, and other grain. This supply of 261,575 bushels of grain is distributed exclusively among the Kandyan villagers, whose number is roughly estimated at 103,000, and is equivalent to a rate of 2½ bushels for each head of the population of the year.

9. These figures are considerably lower than those of 1885 and 1886; but there is reason to believe that they are more reliable, the calculations for the year under review having been made more systematically and carefully than was the case in the previous year. Other causes of the diminution in the grain harvest are to be found in the shortness of the yala crops owing to drought, and in the continued contraction of the area allowed for chena cultivation. The disease in the rice plants, known as "hálpanpíduma," and partially described in the report on this District for 1886, showed a tendency to abatement, but the crops were on the whole considerably inferior to those of the preceding year.

10. Nevertheless, the food supply of the people is neither dear nor scarce. The supplies of grain are supplemented by other local produce in the shape of yams, cassava, arrowroot, plantains, jakfruit, and cocoanuts. Fresh fish is obtainable from the numerous rivers which intersect this part of the country. Dried fish, curry stuffs, and a small quantity of rice are imported. Salt is plentiful throughout the District, but the cost of transport to the more remote villages is high.

11. The following table shows the prices current of the chief articles of food during the year:—

Rice, home-grown	...	...	Rs. 2·50 to Rs 3·50 a bushel
Rice, Indian	...	...	Rs. 3·50 to Rs. 4 a bushel
Muṇ	...	...	Rs. 3 to Rs. 4 a bushel
Kurakkan	...	...	75c. a bushel
Amu	...	...	50c. to 75c. a bushel
Cassava	...	...	2c a pound
Yams	...	...	3c. a pound
Cocoanuts	...	...	Rs 2·50 to Rs. 5 per 100
Plantains	...	...	25c. to 50c. per 100
Breadfruit	...	...	1½c. to 3c. each
Jakfruit	...	...	2c. to 6c. each

12. The Tamil labourers on estates and the bazaar population, amounting in round numbers to 23,000, live well. Their food is chiefly imported, and consists principally of Indian rice, dried fish, cocoanuts, and similar provisions. The amount of rice brought into the District for consumption by this class is roughly estimated at 150,000 bushels, or 6½ bushels for each person annually.

13. The export trade in arecanuts and plantains continues to increase. 1,069 tons of arecanuts were despatched by rail from Rambukkana and Polgahawela in 1887, in comparison with 871 tons in the previous year and 474 tons in 1885. The quantity of plantains consigned at Rambukkana station alone was 787 tons, as against 672 and 561 tons in 1886 and 1885, respectively. The total quantity of arecanuts despatched by rail from the District during the year was 1,244 tons, and of plantains 1,787 tons.

14. These figures point to a steady expansion of the area cultivated with plants of a permanently useful nature, and the rules framed by the village communities for this purpose meet with a more ready compliance than was formerly the case. It is not practicable to frame an exact

estimate of the acreage so planted, but the following return shows the extent of land which was partially improved under the rules in question :—

	Acres.
Galboḍa and Kinigoḍa kóralés	400
Paranakúru kóralé	138
Beligal kóralé	960
Three Kóralés and Páta Bulatgama	122
Total ...	1,620

II.—REQUIRED LEGISLATION.

15. An enactment to provide for the proper administration of Buddhist temporalities, the revision of the mortgage laws and of the law relating to the distillation and sale of arrack, and the advisability of imposing a land tax, are all matters for the consideration of the Government, having regard to legislation in the interests of the general public. The lines upon which legislation regarding Buddhist temporalities might be framed were detailed in the report on this District for 1886.

16. The policy of rendering civil proceedings in village tribunals liable to a small duty is one which the writer of this report is inclined to advocate.

17. The Criminal Procedure Code requires amendment. Sections 175 and 176 and sections subsidiary to them should be repealed, there being no valid reason why a magistrate should not be entrusted with discretionary powers of commitment. These were the views of the Secretary of State in 1883. Conflicting sections, such as numbers 249 and 252, when read with 175 and 176, and several other details also, require amendment. The list of non-bailable offences should be reduced and the powers of magistrates to take bail should be enlarged. At present in non-bailable offences the anomaly exists that before conviction a magistrate cannot allow bail, and that after conviction, if an appeal be taken, he has no discretion to refuse bail. Provision should also be made for the imposition of a stamp duty on all cases summarily triable.

III.—PUBLIC WORKS.

18. The following list enumerates the works which are required in this District :—

(1) Bridges at Ruwanwęlla over the Gurugoḍa-oya, at Arandara over the Gurugoḍa-oya, and at Werellapota over the Rambukkan-oya.
(2) Foot bridges at Andiramaḍa over the Maha-oya and at Niloluwa over the Gurugoḍa-oya.
(3) The further extension of the road from Ruwanwęlla towards Attanagalla.
(4) The connection of the Bulatkohopiṭiya road with the Dolosbáge road at or near Windsor Forest estate. A survey has been made of the trace.
(5) The connection of the Rambukkana-Aranáyaka road with the Dolosbáge road at or near Hillside estate.
(6) The conversion of the path between Yaṭiyantoṭa and Maskeliya near Kandal-oya estate into a cart road.
(7) The continuation of the road from Deraniyagala to Eratna in Kuruwiṭi kóralé.
(8) The construction of a light railway from Ambépussa or Véyangoḍa to Ruwanwęlla, and thence towards Ratnapura. It has been estimated that such a railway would repay, at any rate, the cost of its construction and working expenses. This being the case, it is difficult to conceive what objections can be raised in opposition to the scheme ; for the test of probable profit appears theoretically to be applicable not more to railways than it is to roads. European enterprise and native interests would alike derive equal benefit from the construction of a work of this nature.
(9) The improvement of the navigation of the Kęlani-gaṇga. Under this scheme the communication by river between Colombo and the Kęlani valley would be greatly facilitated, and steamers would be enabled to ply, with the result of increased traffic and the more speedy carriage of produce. A report upon the question has already been submitted to the Government.
(10) The improvement of the navigation of the Sítáwaka-gaṇga. The cost of this work is estimated at Rs. 3,000.
(11) Telegraphic communication between Polgahawela and Kęgalla. The outlay required for this purpose may be estimated at Rs. 3,200,—a small sum in proportion to the advantages which would be consequent upon the adoption of the project.
(12) The construction of a dam across the Andana-ęla near Rambukkana. The scheme has been laid before the Provincial Irrigation Board.
(13) The erection of a building at Kęgalla which would serve as an office for a Land Registrar, and would also accommodate the establishment of the Deputy Fiscal. The land between the kachchéri and the court-house should be acquired as a site.
(14) The enlargement of the Kęgalla kachchéri. The present accommodation is quite insufficient for the requirements of the office, the business of which has been doubled in the last ten years while the building remains the same. Plans have been prepared, and the cost of the required improvements is estimated at not more than Rs. 2,100. It is hoped that the Government will find it possible to vote this amount in 1888.
(15) The restoration of the ruins of Berendo kówila in the village of Talduwa in Atulugam kóralé. The cost is roughly estimated at Rs. 1,000.
(16) The establishment of outdoor dispensaries at Rambukkana and at Aranáyaka or on Kellie estate in Dolosbáge.
(17) The erection of a substantial wall or of an iron railing round the general cemetery at Kęgalla, and the enclosure of a new burial ground.
(18) The completion of a wall ground the premises of the Kęgalla prison. A sum of Rs. 1,928·22 is now available, and will be devoted to the partial construction of the work during 1888.

19. The works in the preceding list which are most required are, in the approximate order of their urgency, those numbered (1), (3), (14), (13), (11), and (16).

IV.—ADMINISTRATIVE MEASURES OF IMPORTANCE.

Thoroughfares Ordinance.

20. Improved results in the administration of this Ordinance were obtained during 1887. The percentage of men who paid commutation at the single rate was 74·1, as against 71·16 in the previous year on a smaller number of men liable. The collections in money rose from Rs. 34,455 in 1886 to Rs. 35,796 in the year under review. The accounts were closed before the end of the year, the percentage which was finally written off for deficiencies of all sorts being 10·18.

21. The success of the system of labour centres which was inaugurated in 1886 received practical proof during the year under review. A larger number paid commutation and performed single labour, while there was a marked decrease in the register of men detained at labour centres or committed to prison.

22. One hundred and sixty-two miles of minor roads were maintained in fair order and 26 miles were newly opened. A detailed report of the work of the year has, in accordance with the instructions of the Government, already been submitted by the Chairman of the District Road Committee.

23. The expenditure on repairs to main roads throughout the District, the mileage of which is 101, amounted to Rs. 22,962, as compared with Rs. 24,360·50 in the preceding year. The roads, though not in good order, were passable for traffic, and, with the exception of that from Ruwanwella to Bulatkohopitiya, they are in better repair than was the case in 1886. Action was taken by the District Road Committee for the removal of encroachments at Yatiyantota and Dehiówita.

24. The minor roads from Ritigaha-oya to Ballápána (fourteen miles in length), from Ruwanwella to Karawanella (two miles in length), and from Kégalla to Undugoda (eight miles in length), should be taken over by the Public Works Department.

Registration.

25. Much importance is attached by the writer of this report to the encouragement of the registration of marriages and the enforcement of the registration of births, as affecting succession to property and the numerous questions which arise therefrom. A comparative statement of births, marriages, and deaths registered in 1887 and 1886 is annexed. The figures are satisfactory. They show the large increase of 102·59 per centum in the number of marriages and of 31·93 per centum in the number of births registered. Section 174 of the Penal Code was used to induce more attention to the registration of births. The increase of 38·28 per centum in deaths was due to the unhealthiness of the year under review :—

	1887.				1886.			
	Marriages registered under Ordinance 3 of 1870.	Marriages registered under Ordinance 13 of 1863.	Births.	Deaths.	Marriages registered under Ordinance 3 of 1870.	Marriages registered under Ordinance 13 of 1863.	Births.	Deaths.
Galboda and Kmigoda kóralés ...	465	8	1,054	846	126	7	696	677
Paranakúru kóralé ...	97	11	872	790	100	8	643	634
Beligal kóralé ...	262	13	962	805	106	13	708	389
Three Kóralés and Páta Bulatgama ...	72	10	710	835	88	15	556	527
Estates ...	Included in preceding divisions.				—	—	124	142
Total ...	897	42	3,598	3,276	420	43	2,727	2,369

26. A change of policy has been adopted in dealing with applications for divorce under the Kandyan Marriage Ordinance during the past year. Any inclination on the part of the Assistant Provincial Registrar to obstruct or to do more than primarily discourage divorce has been abandoned, with the result, as the figures of the foregoing table indicate, that there is a more general readiness to register marriages. The number of marriages registered is also due to exertions on the part of the headmen who have, under the directions of the Assistant Government Agent, spared no pains to point out the evil effects of non-registration.

Land Settlement.

27. Inquiry regarding claims to lands surveyed and the settlement of titles received special attention during the year. The following statement shows the work done during 1887 compared with the two preceding years :—

	1887.	1886.	1885.
Sold	58	50	57
Granted on Certificates of Quiet Possession...	97	20	42
Granted at Rs. 10 per acre	1	6	—
Granted at appraised value	4	2	7
Claim of Crown waived	447	17	8
Total Lots settled ...	607	95	114

Schools.

28. Every endeavour to encourage vernacular education in this District continues to be made. Frequent inspections and examinations of the Government schools are held by the Assistant Government Agent, and no efforts are spared to inspire the headmen and the people with an interest in the

cause. Where fair words fail, improved attendance is ensured by the application of the machinery of the Village Communities Ordinance.

29. Schoolhouses at Pannila, Galapiṭamaḍa, Kitulgala, Mábópiṭiya, and Kabagomuwa were built during the year, and the new schools established at these places are working satisfactorily. Application has been made for the establishment of seven others, the erection of a schoolhouse and a sufficient attendance of scholars being in every case guaranteed by the people.

30. There are at present nineteen Government schools. At the end of 1886 the number was fourteen. The officer in charge of this District is most anxious to see vernacular education fostered and extended, and he deprecates the discouragement of the present feeling of the people in this direction by the refusal of the Government to establish new schools where applications in the required form have been made. The objectionable results of neglecting education of this simple nature are too obvious to require enumeration. Applications for seven new schools are at present before the Director of Public Instruction.

Village Communities.

31. The procedure of village communities has been carefully watched during the year. Much useful work has been done by the village committees, and communal labour has been liberally applied to the upkeep of village paths, the repair of schoolhouses, and the maintenance of ambalams throughout the District.

32. The following return shows the works of this nature which were effected during the year :—

Division.	Mileage of Paths repaired.	Number of Schools repaired.	Number of Ambalams maintained.
Galboḍa and Kinigoḍa kóralés ...	54	3	40
Paranakúru kóralé ...	200	6	9
Beligal kóralé ...	372	3	27
Three Kóralés and Páta Bulatgama ...	200	6	9
Total ...	826	18	85

33. Under the rules framed in 1885 a considerable area of chena land has been cultivated with industrial products, and the communal gardens have received careful supervision. Figures have been given elsewhere.

34. The number of cases instituted before the village committees of Beligal kóralé and Paranakúru kóralé during the year was 99.

35. The following return shows the work done by the village tribunals of the District :—

Institutions.	Máwanęlla.	Rambukkana.	Dehiówiṭa.	Ruwanwęlla.	Bulatkohopiṭiya.	Total.
Civil.						
Pending on January 1, 1887 ...	24	15	32	39	34	144
Instituted during 1887	636	578	662	490	43	2,409
Total ...	660	593	694	529	77	2,553
Decided during 1887 :—						
By amicable settlement ...	49	47	25	12	1	134
On admission	33	25	76	54	4	192
After taking evidence	477	453	182	162	12	1,286
Otherwise disposed of	92	64	407	300	59	922
Outstanding on December 31, 1887 ...	9	4	4	1	1	19
Total ...	660	593	694	529	77	2,553
Criminal.						
Pending on January 1, 1887 ...	40	23	20	34	7	124
Instituted during 1887	585	625	336	269	18	1,833
Total ...	625	648	356	303	25	1,957
Decided during 1887 :—						
By amicable settlement ...	112	156	30	19	—	317
After hearing evidence—						
Acquittals	98	165	51	34	1	349
Convictions	123	190	60	57	6	436
Otherwise disposed of	285	134	213	185	18	835
Outstanding on December 31, 1887 ...	7	3	2	8	—	20
Total ...	625	648	356	303	25	1,957

Each village tribunal is self-supporting, the salaries of the presidents being excluded from the calculation.

V.—SPECIALLY DESIRABLE MEASURES.

Forest Settlement and Sale of Land.

36. The legislation of existing chena settlements is still the chief want of the District, and the blocks of land which under such settlements have been handed over to the villagers should be now constituted village forests under Ordinance No. 10 of 1885. A number of chena plans of which no settlement has yet been made should be dealt with on the same basis. For this purpose

an officer should be specially appointed by the Government. The plans of 113 villages are ready for disposal by a Forest Settlement Officer, and the details of the question have been laid before the Government.

37. Action such as is advocated in the preceding paragraph will have, among other desirable results, the beneficial effect of preventing the alienation of village chena lands. Under present circumstances it is impossible to check the sale of such lands to those who are interested in the cultivation of tea, and it is equally difficult to obviate the hardships which the poorer class of shareholders in such lands frequently suffers in consequence of sales which may have been effected without their knowledge or against their will.

38. There is another remedy for this state of things, and that is, the sale of an acreage sufficiently large to satisfy the demand which still exists for land in the Kelani valley suitable for the cultivation of tea. A large extent of forest and chena is now practically available for sale, all that is required being the arrangement and selection of suitable blocks. The writer of this report desires emphatically to record his opinion that a sale of 3,000 or 4,000 acres of chena land in the Kelani valley during 1888 is most desirable. A sale of this nature would satisfy the demand of the European capitalist, would legitimately increase the revenue both directly and indirectly, and would go far towards protecting village interests by relieving the Kandyan landholder from interference on the part of the brokers in land.

39. Both these questions, that of forest settlement and that of an extensive sale of Crown land, have been treated in detail by the Assistant Government Agent in official communications despatched during 1886 and 1887.

Payment of Headmen.

40. The remuneration which headmen at present receive is certainly inadequate to the value of their services. The views that headmen are generally inefficient and that their service requires a sweeping reorganisation are, as regards this District, incorrect, and any scheme involving a redistribution of their duties upon a numerical basis would be unadvisable in Kégalla. Their jurisdiction should depend upon geographical rather than upon numerical limits, and the boundaries of a village, which are recognised as a matter of history by the villagers, form for them and for the headmen limits more natural than any which would be enforced by a redistribution of duties according to population alone.

Land Registration.

41. There is real need for a Land Registrar's office at Kégalla, and the people of this District are put to much inconvenience and to unnecessary expense by the arrangements which are at present in force.

42. For the purposes of land registration the District is divided into three parts, which are placed under the jurisdiction of the several registrars of Kandy, Kurunégala, and Ratnapura. Apart from the objectionable features of any such division at all, the system upon which it is based is in itself specially irksome to the people; for the kóralés and pattus are also sub-divided. Beligal kóralé is apportioned partly to Kandy, partly to Kurunégala; Galboda kóralé, which forms part of the Ratémahatmayá's division of Galboda and Kinigoda kóralés, is, for registration purposes, subdivided between Kurunégala and Kandy; and so forth.

43. The result is, that the notaries have in many instances to forward duplicates to more than one registrar, although the lands to which the deed has reference are situate in the same kóralé. Similarly, in cases where one registration ought to be sufficient, a deed has frequently to be registered in two offices. As a consequence, considerable inconvenience is caused and much unnecessary expense is incurred.

44. It would perhaps be possible to decrease the establishment at one of the offices at Kandy, Ratnapura, or Kurunégala, in view of the reduction of work which would ensue upon the appointment of a registrar at Kégalla, so as to make provision for the payment of the necessary salaries.

45. Careful inquiries have been instituted in order to ascertain the amount of business which would probably be transacted at an office such as that which is in contemplation, and in order to estimate the probable amount of revenue and expenditure. Calculations show that the yearly fees on deeds executed would amount to Rs. 5,550. In the Administration Report of the Registrar-General for 1883 the proportion of deeds registered to deeds executed is stated to be 28 per centum. This rate, which has probably risen during the last four years, shows that the fees earned in the District would be not less than Rs. 1,554, an amount which would suffice for the payment of a registrar at Rs. 1,000, a clerk at Rs. 400, and a peon at Rs. 120 per annum. Accordingly there seem to be no obstacle in the way. The question has been laid before the Government.

Acquisition of Land at Kégalla.

46. Should a Land Registrar's office be established at Kégalla it would be necessary either to rent a house for the purpose or to build upon a site to be acquired by the Government. There is a suitable piece of ground between the court and the kachchéri. This land ought not to be in the hands of private owners. It commands a near view of the court-house, and is the site of a congeries of unsightly boutiques. Its uncleanly condition forms an undesirable contrast to the adjacent grounds which are the property of the Crown. The value of the land is estimated at Rs. 1,000, and the expenditure of this amount in its acquisition is earnestly advocated.

Postal Requirements.

47. The establishment of a Post Office at Karawanella to serve the neighbouring estates and of a service of runners between Karawanella and Kégalla, are among the urgent wants of the District. They are required both for the convenience of the public and for administrative purposes.

48. Similarly, a line of runners between Yatiyantota and Watawala should be instituted in order to avoid the delay to which all correspondence between the Kelani valley and the higher districts is subject under the present system, by which letters are carried *viâ* Avisáwélla to Colombo and thence up-country.

49. The Assistant Government Agent, acting in concert with the Honorary Secretary of the Kelani Valley Planters' Association, has laid these requirements before the proper authorities, and it is hoped that the sanction of the Government will be accorded to the proposals which have been made.

Grant to Village Committees.

50. Application has been made to the Government Agent for a small grant to village committees in aid of masonry on roads constructed and maintained by them, but so far without success. Assistance of this nature would be duly appreciated by the headmen and the people, and would be productive of increased energy in works of this description. Considering that 826 miles of roads were maintained by village committees alone in this District during 1887, it does not seem unreasonable to ask the Government for some slight recognition of the activity of the headmen. It is believed that a grant of Rs. 1,000 has already been made in one District.

Clerical Staff.

51. An addition to the clerical staff of the kachchéri is urgently required. The business of the office has been more than doubled during the last ten years, but the number of clerks remains the same. The work is of course daily increasing with the expansion of the District, which is now second to none in importance. The writer of this report has repeatedly laid the matter before the proper authorities, but without success.

VI.—THE GRAIN TAX ORDINANCE.

52. The collections of the grain tax due for 1887 were finally closed on October 7, 1887. No land was sold for default of payment. A comparative statement is annexed giving details for each year since Part II. of Ordinance No. 11 of 1878 was brought into operation :—

Year.	Total according to Register.			Lands Sold.		
	Lots.	Extent.	Tax.	Lots.	Extent.	Tax.
		A. R. P.	Rs. c.		A. R. P.	Rs. c.
1882 ...	44,797	21,378 0 0	44,189 84	142	29 0 22	306 36
1883 ...	44,834	21,408 0 0	44,184 54	89	20 0 25	49 47
1884 ...	44,866	21,418 1 20	44,256 50	127	24 3 32	72 6
1885 ...	44,866	21,418 1 20	44,256 50	116	29 1 39	81 4
1886 ...	44,866	21,418 1 20	44,256 50	15	4 3 25	7 30
1887 ...	44,886	21,418 1 20	44,256 50	—	—	—

53. The tax was recovered without much difficulty, chiefly owing to the exertions of the chief headmen and of the Kachchéri Mudaliyár, who deserve credit for the energy which they showed with regard to this matter. The number of sales of ground share, crop, or lease was 42. The amount of tax for default of which these sales were held was Rs. 56·09. The fees recovered amounted to Rs. 15·08.

54. The commutation system is popular with the people of this District, and it is anticipated that at the revision a large majority will choose annual instead of crop commutation, although, in accordance with the instructions of the Government, their perfect liberty of action in this matter has been fully impressed upon them.

VII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

55. A serious outbreak of malarial fever occurred during the second quarter of the year, the total number of cases which were reported by the headmen being 7,610. Prompt measures were taken for the relief of the sufferers, and large supplies of medicine were distributed by the Assistant Government Agent on circuit. Arrangements were also made under which a medical officer was detailed to itinerate in Three Kóralés, and the vaccinators employed in Four Kóralés were stationed at the chief centres in order to prescribe for, and issue medicines to, all who were in need of treatment. Relief in all necessary cases was afforded through the chief headmen. In July the outbreak of fever abated, and the health of the people again became normal.

56. There was, on the other hand, no smallpox whatever in the District during the year under review, whereas 19 cases had occurred in the previous year and 29 in 1885. The number of vaccinations was smaller than that of 1886, owing to the employment of the staff of vaccinators during three months of the year on special duty at the fever centres. The percentage of successful operations, however, increased, being 81·12 in comparison with 76·62 and 74·80 in 1886 and 1885, respectively.

57. The extraordinary prevalence of fever was no doubt due to the abnormal conditions of weather and rainfall, for which the early part of the year was remarkable. A long period of drought between January and March was followed by excessive rain during the second quarter of the year; the rainfall of three months as registered at Kégalla and Ruwanwella, respectively, being 45·16 and 64·18 in comparison with 37·23 and 45·41 for the same period of 1886. A second period of drought occurred in September.

58. The mean death-rate per mille of the population was 25·95 as compared with 19·11 in 1886 and 21·32 in 1885. The mean birth-rate was 28·46 per mille, or 2·51 in excess of the mean death-rate. The causes of the increase in the birth-rate have been explained in chapter IV. of this report under the heading Registration.

59. The facilities for the treatment of sickness are fair. 432 patients were admitted to the Kégalla hospital in comparison with 270 in the previous year. At the outdoor dispensary 2,495 patients received treatment as against 1,210 in 1886. At the outdoor dispensaries of Karawanella and Avisáwélla the number of cases treated was 1,129 and 3,737 respectively. In January, 1888, a hospital was opened at Karawanella to serve the estates of the Kelani valley; the number of beds is, however, at present insufficient to meet the demands for accommodation. Further facilities for medical treatment should be afforded by the establishment of outdoor dispensaries at Rambukkana, and at Aranáyaka or on Kellie estate in Dolosbáge. The latter would be practically for the exclusive use of estate labourers. The villagers have already fair means of obtaining medical treatment, not

only at Government hospitals and dispensaries, but also at the hands of the village practitioners —vedarálas—whose number and utility are worthy of consideration. A note on the medical men of this class appeared in the report on the Kęgalla District for 1886.

VIII.—CRIME.

60. Serious crime continues to decrease. In the Kęgalla courts 65 cases not triable summarily were disposed of, the number of persons accused being 144. In the previous year the number of such cases was 89, involving 217 persons, and in 1885 the figures were 200 and 510 respectively. On the other hand, the number of cases summarily triable amounted to 1,384 comprising 2,544 persons, in comparison with 1,041 cases and 2,017 persons in the preceding year.

61. The statistics regarding cattle-stealing are as satisfactory as those relating to serious crime. The number of cases of cattle-stealing during the year under review was only 26, as against 76 and 107 in 1886 and 1885, respectively. The returns as to murder are equally gratifying, there being only 1 case against 2 persons during the year, in contrast to 3 cases involving 9 persons in 1886 and 9 cases comprising 17 defendants in 1885.

62. Seventeen criminal cases were tried by the Assistant Government Agent as Additional District Judge during the year, the number of accused persons being 38. There were 10 charges of hurt, 4 of theft, and 3 of perjury; of these, 15 resulted in convictions and 2 in acquittals.

63. The jail statistics of the year are again satisfactory. The number of convicts fell from 881 in 1886 to 410 in the year under review, in contrast to 1,217 in 1885. Similarly, the daily average of convicts was 14·35 in comparison with 24·98 and 35·62 in 1886 and 1885, respectively. The daily average of prisoners, both convicted and under remand, was only 21·24 in comparison with 24·98 and 35·62 during the two preceding years.

IX.—CATTLE DISEASE.

64. The year was remarkable for the absence of disease among the cattle, no cases whatever of murrain having occurred.

X.—NEW AREAS OF CULTIVATION.

65. A large acreage was, as in 1886, newly opened for cultivation during the year.

66. In the Kęlani valley 1,374 acres were newly planted with tea, making a total of 10,435 acres under tea in that District at the close of the year. The outturn amounted to 1,754,000 pounds, and is estimated to increase to 2,418,000 pounds in 1888.

67. For the Dólosbáge section of this district complete statistics cannot be obtained, and figures which would be only vague and unreliable are accordingly withheld. The cultivation of tea is being rapidly extended here also, and a large area has been newly opened for this purpose. The outturn in 1888 will probably amount to nearly a million pounds. The production of cacao and cardamoms, though small, is also increasing. Cinchona, on the other hand, is dying out.

68. A considerable extent of native gardens and of chena land was newly planted with cocoanuts, arecanuts, and plantains. The area of the land so improved is estimated at 1,620 acres.

XI.—WORK OTHER THAN ROUTINE.

69. The instructions of the Government require that not one of the headings detailed in the circular regarding Administration Reports is to be omitted from such reports. It is accordingly necessary here to insert some remarks on "the nature of the Assistant Government Agent's work other than mere routine." The Assistant Government Agent was occupied during the year with the questions of education, registration, and improvement of social relations with the people; with incessant visits to all parts of the District, and travelling from village to village through unfrequented neighbourhoods; with the performance of the division day work on circuit monthly in each division instead of at the kachchéri as hitherto; with the protection of Crown forests and the restriction of indiscriminate chena cultivation; with extensive experiments in the cultivation of barley; with the distribution of fruit trees and seeds; with the construction and supervision of twenty-six miles of new roads; with the celebration of the jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen; with a scheme for the erection of a resthouse at Kęgalla for the use of the headmen and natives; with preparations for an agricultural show; and with many other matters of interest, a detailed catalogue of which is perhaps unnecessary.

XII.—EVENTS OF INTEREST.

70. The chief events in the history of the District during the year under review were, the visit of His Excellency the Governor to Kęgalla from January 15 to 17, the celebration of the Jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen on June 28, the introduction of the Wild Birds Protection Ordinance on July 15, the formation of the Kęgalla Association on September 7, the erection of a hospital at Karawanęlla, and the completion of the bridge over the Sitáwaka-gaṇga in December.

71. In accordance with the instructions of Government a selection of diary entries is annexed.

Assistant Government Agent's Office,
Kęgalla, March 28, 1888.

F. H. PRICE,
Acting Assistant Government Agent.

Extracts from Diary.

March 2.—Sent in report regarding the Small Tenements Ordinance. The law seems unobjectionable for rural districts as well as for towns. I am not aware of the reasons which render a separate consideration of each case advisable. Stated that the introduction of the law is not specially required in any part of this District. At the same time there seems to be no reason why it should not be brought into operation throughout the entire District and throughout the whole of Ceylon.

March 5.—Kęlani valley reservation. The Forest Settlement Officer considers that the claims, as represented by the tax receipts, should "for the most part" be accepted as good. He might go further than this, for it would by no means be fair to restrict within such narrow limits the area to be allowed to the people for cultivation. It must not be forgotten that no tax receipts are available for chenas which have been cultivated only with amu or

kurakkan. Within the proposed reserve large areas are sown with no other grain. The basis of the whole calculation must, in the opinion of the Assistant Government Agent, be population; it is not to be expected that the people can produce complete title by tax receipts to all the chenas which they are accustomed to cultivate. As to the acquisition by the Crown of gardens, it can only be done by payment of compensation in money. The difficulties of such a course would be enormous, and the cost prohibitive. It may be possible to effect judicious exchanges of chena land, but any such question will require most careful treatment. The Forest Settlement Officer has full power to alter the boundaries of the proposed reserve, and he will, it is imagined, avail himself of those powers. A survey of each village is necessary.

June 23.—Wrote for instructions on the question of the chena settlement of Edurápota. The village is (part of it, at all events) a nindagama. A settlement was made in October, 1884, on the usual lines, to which the landlord and the tenants agreed. From time to time the tenants have shown themselves very obstructive, and have repeatedly refused to obey the decisions of the gaṇsabhâwa regarding a division of the village block among the various paṇgukárayó. Lately, in April last, the landlord, Mr. Samarasiṇha, addressed to the Assistant Government Agent a letter formally repudiating the agreement of 1884, which he had signed, on the ground of its being *ultra vires*. Both landlord and tenants being decided in their determination not to observe the terms of the settlement, the Crown also may, it is thought, disown it. No other solution of the question is apparent. Suggested to the Government Agent that a notification should now be published to the effect that it is proposed to constitute the village of Edurápota a reserved forest, and that the Assistant Government Agent should be appointed Forest Settlement Officer for the purpose. The tenants would certainly be unable to show legal title to all the chenas which they now profess to own, and they would find that they had in the end injured themselves by their obstructiveness. It is not proposed that the Forest Settlement Officer should grant them only the land to which they could prove legal title; but they should, it is considered, be treated with mere justice and not with liberality as heretofore. The Forest Settlement Officer might allow them the right of chena cultivation on an extent of high land (say) three times as great as that of their mud land. This course would result in their being deprived of a considerable portion of the chenas to which they now lay claim. The landlord on his part would have nothing beyond the services to which he is entitled.

December 12.—Wrote to the Government Agent, with reference to Colonial Secretary's Circular No. 127 of November 24, 1887, regarding block settlements on a communal basis. The course of action therein advocated has been to some extent anticipated by the Assistant Government Agent's letters, in which he has recommended the legalisation of all the informal settlements of this District, and further, the constitution of several new reserved forests. The circular under reply refers solely to chapter II. of the Forest Ordinance, and lays special stress—in which the writer emphatically concurs—on the factors *block* and *communal*. But in that chapter there is no provision as to communal possession, whereas chapter III. specially provides for the constitution of village forest for the benefit of village communities. It appears to the Assistant Government Agent, speaking under correction on the part of the Law Officers, that the action in view should be taken under chapter III., and not under chapter II. The provisions of chapter III. enable the Governor to constitute any land at the disposal of the Crown —and practically all chena land may be brought within this definition—a village forest on a communal basis. All claims could be speedily inquired into and settled under this chapter; the lengthy formalities and legal intricacies necessitated by chapter II. being dispensed with. In fact, the system inaugurated by Mr. Ievers in this District could be legally carried into effect.

Procedure under chapter II. would, on the other hand, while not ensuring a better result eventually, multiply work, entail more time and expense, and introduce into the question, which ought to be one to be settled speedily and equitably between the people and the Agent of the Government, an element of legal intricacy which is objectionable. The preparation and publication of voluminous notifications, the obligation to record in writing all statements made by claimants, the conversion of what ought to be a kachchéri inquiry into a case bristling with the technicalities of the law courts, the appeals to the Government Agent and the Supreme Court, the mere lapse of time which is involved in the provisions of this chapter, are, in the opinion of the writer, all of them objectionable. Accordingly, submitted for the Government Agent's consideration the advisability of proceeding under chapter III., not chapter II., of the Ordinance in order to attain the object in view, which is in itself unquestionably desirable.

March 9.—Reported to the Provincial Road Committee on proposal to circulate lists of defaulters (absentees) from each committee among all other committees. Any such alteration in the existing procedure is, in the opinion of the writer, undesirable. An enormous increase of clerical labour and expenditure of time and trouble would be involved. The increased amount of recoveries would be but small in proportion. It appears to be contemplated that each committee should circulate its own list of absentees to all other committees. In other words, there being twenty-one district committees in Ceylon, each committee will receive twenty additional lists for disposal. With the machinery at present available in the shape of clerks and headmen, such a task is disproportionate to its contingent advantages: either each committee would have to prepare one such list to be sent on from one committee to another (in this case the time involved in disposing of the list would be much prolonged), or each committee would make out twenty copies of the list, each of which would be receiving the attention of twenty committees at the same time. To restrict the circulation of the list to neighbouring committees would be unsatisfactory; for it is by no means a matter of course that an absentee from one District goes to a neighbouring District (if by "neighbouring" be meant "adjoining"). The proportion of absentees to the total number liable is in Kégalla small, and it is probable that only a few of these could be traced even under a system so searching as that which is proposed.

Much more, then, would it be undesirable to send round a list of all those who fail to commute or labour at the first summons. Here, for instance, where the number of such defaulters is comparatively small, it would have been necessary to circulate among twenty other committees a list of about 4,000 persons, many of whom seldom leave their villages for a night, and who merely neglect to work six days because from their natural apathy they allow themselves to become liable to twelve days labour or to arrest.

September 2.—Wrote to the Government Agent, with reference to certain amendments of the Thoroughfares Ordinance, as sanctioned by the Government for adoption. A copy of these proposed amendments was sent to this kachchéri some time ago.

It is proposed that the notice to perform double labour should be left at the last known place of residence of the defaulter. The necessity for this change in the manner of giving notice is not apparent. Section 13 of Ordinance 31 of 1884 provides that notice by beat of tom-tom shall be sufficient, and the terms of that provision should not, in the writer's opinion, be varied. To insist upon a notice (presumably written) being left at each defaulter's house would be to greatly increase the labour of the division officers, who are already overworked.

Section 16 of Ordinance 31 of 1884 has already enacted that warrants should be issued against all persons who fail to perform double labour.

It is undoubtedly advisable that discretionary powers should be legally conferred upon the chairman to allow payment of the tax at the single rate, even though warrants have been issued. The Assistant Government Agent agrees with the proposals having reference to the supplementary lists, with the exception of one point, namely, the period of notice. It is not clear why fourteen days should be allowed to the defaulter for his reply. Section 13 of Ordinance 31 of 1884 provides that seven days' notice should be given to those who are called upon to perform labour. The same period would be amply sufficient in the case of "absentee defaulters."

The gist of these remarks is, that the Assistant Government Agent ventures, with much deference, to contest the advisability and necessity of the procedure indicated in the letter to the Attorney-General, as regards two points, which are (1) the description of notice to be given to persons who are to perform double labour; (2) the time to be allowed to "absentee defaulters" to prove payment of the tax or performance of labour. In view of the fact that the Governor in Executive Council has already decided upon the procedure to be adopted, the Assistant Government Agent naturally hesitated before venturing on this criticism. But these views are based upon a careful consideration of the question, and the writer considered it right to place them before the Government Agent.

August 5.—Talgahagoḍa Banḍá came to pay the Assistant Government Agent a visit. Made arrangements on behalf of the District Road Committee to give him a credit of Rs. 100 for the repair of the old Kandyan road from Heṭṭimulla to Lewuke. He is to do as much as he can for the money, but is bound by no contract except that of good faith. This, it is thought, is a good plan with men of his class whom one can trust. They are flattered by the confidence, and, having the command of labour and a direct interest in the improvement of a road which benefits their own part of the country, are likely to give us full value for our money. We lend him tools.

March 24.—Mr. Clark, the Forester, came to discuss the question of firewood contracts and the mode of issuing permits to contractors. It used to be the practice for the Forester to issue such permits without reference to the Assistant Government Agent, and they were greatly abused. The contractor had merely to flourish his license in the face of any headman who proposed to check him, and could practically fell and transport any timber which he might choose. Last year, however, several people were punished for illicit felling of timber, and instructions were given to the Forester by the Government Agent to consult the Assistant Government Agent before entering any particular forest for the purpose of felling timber. An effective check has thus been placed upon indiscriminate destruction of valuable trees, and the result is, the Forester says, "that he finds it difficult to get contractors in this District." Apparently it does not pay them to be honest. Arrived at an understanding with Mr. Clark on the following lines:—(1) Forester will, when feasible, refer to the Assistant Government Agent before issuing a permit or entering into a contract; (2) Forester, when time presses, and it is therefore inadvisable to go through the process of reference to the Assistant Government Agent, will issue his permits or enter into his contracts without previous reference (in such cases, a copy of the permit or contract will always be sent to the Assistant Government Agent); (3) the Assistant Government Agent will furnish to Mr. Clark a list of the trees in this District which may be felled on firewood contracts.

May 7.—Received from the Government Agent a list of rules for firewood contracts, embodying the suggestions made by the Assistant Government Agent to the Forester in March last. The only addition which is desirable is a clause compelling the contractor to report all damages to reserved trees to the Raṭémahatmayá. In accordance with an undertaking made to the Forester, the Assistant Government Agent sent a list of the trees to which firewood contractors should be restricted in this District, namely, bakmi, bómbu, bómi, dawaṭa, doḍankaha, domba, eṭaheraliya, galmora, goḍakaduru, goḍapora, hal, heḍawaka, karawu, kina, kirikón, kón, mádan, mará, mora, múnamal, muruta, ruk, walukina, wá, welanga. All the foregoing are included in schedule B of Ordinance No. 10 of 1885. The following trees, not in either schedule of the Ordinance, are also available for firewood purposes, and should, whenever practicable, be felled in preference to those previously enumerated:—gęḍumba, *Trema orientalis*; kahaṭa, *Careya arborea*; kęḷęlla, *Aporosa Lindleyana*; kęnda, *Macaranga tomentosa*; rawan-idala *Wendlandia Notoniana*; welipiyanná, *Anisophyllea zeylanica*; weralu, *Elæocarpus serratus*.

July 7.—To Yatagama and back in afternoon, paying a surprise visit to the railway firewood contractor on the way. Found him to be intelligent and apparently honest. No reserved timber in his stock. Visits such as these, made alone, and entirely without notice to unfrequented spots (such as the forests to which these firewood contracts apply), have a good effect.

May 17.—Wrote on May 8 to Ratwatta Basnáyaka Nilamé to ask if the premises of Berendi kovil (a quarter mile from Avisáwélla) had been leased by him. Further asked him if he was inclined to take any steps to restore the ruins. It was built about the middle of the sixteenth century by Rájasiṇha, the apostate. The Basnáyaka Nilamé now replies that one of his predecessors leased the premises to Migeṭṭuwatta Unnánse and another, and that he is anxious to cancel the lease. Asks the Assistant Government Agent to help him to this end; also states that he has a great desire to restore the ruins, but cannot afford to do so. Have written to the Government Agent asking him to obtain the lease from Migeṭṭuwatta, and as soon as it is cancelled propose to take further steps towards the restoration, or at any rate preservation, of this interesting ruin.

July 22.—Went out of the way to see Dánagirigala viháré, which is built upon the summit of a high hill commanding a very fine view. 360 stone steps lead up to it. It was founded by Lewuké Disáwa, and is somewhat like the Dambulla viháré in Kinigoḍa kóralé in size and situation, which also was built by the same founder. The priest produced the copper sannasa vesting lands in the temple, dated 1787 A.D. A fine specimen, and a copy is promised for the kachchéri.

July 26.—Left Lewangama. Walked across country to Pindeniya *viâ* Lenagala and Mattamagoḍa. The country is rough and the journey occupied about four hours. At Lenagala there is an old viháré lately restored, and now in very good preservation. There are three chapels, to each of which is a doorway of three large stones, finely carved and well preserved. On the rock above the viháré are traces of an inscription the characters of which are Dęwanágara. Unfortunately the inscription is obscured by a retaining wall which has been built under the rock, and which cannot be removed without much expense and difficulty. A copy of the inscription has been sent to the Government. The temple is said to have been founded by King Walgam Báhu (100 A.C. circa). The images were erected by King Kirti Sri (1744 A.D. circa).

May 25.—Received from Singapore a case of mangosteen plants well established, to be planted in the experimental garden at Kęgalla. If they succeed we shall have a nursery from which we can supply the other district gardens with specially good specimens of a fruit tree which is exceptionally well suited to the climate of this part of the country. In return for them a case of dotalu palms will be sent to the Straits.

September 6.—Wrote to the Brewery, Nuwara Eliya, for fifty-five bushels of barley to be distributed throughout the District and to be sown in small plots as an experiment. Arrangements for this purpose have been made with about 120 headmen and others, and the trial will be made on all sorts of chena and ówiṭa lands, comprising a wide variety of elevation and aspect. We get the seed for nothing. For every bushel which we deliver in good order in Nuwara Eliya we get Rs. 3, and the Brewery guarantees to take 10,000 bushels if we can supply so much. The estimated yield is twelve-fold, half a bushel being sown to the acre. This will be a good thing for the chena cultivators of the District if we can only raise crops from the seed.

May 31.—Sent in statement showing the number of marriages and divorces (Kandyan) from 1871 to 1886. Total number of marriages 10,375; total number of divorces 487. The largest number of marriages took place in 1871 (2,151), 1872 (1,160), and in 1874 (1,782), as against a minimum of 219 in 1881. The number registered in 1886 (420) was greater than that in eight preceding years. The maximum number of divorces (63) was granted in 1878, the minimum (11) in 1871.

July 11.—Sent in report of action taken for the celebration of the jubilee, as required by Government circular, to the following effect:—At 11 A.M. on June 28 the record of the principal events of the reign was read at fifty-eight places by the officer of the highest standing in each place, the places being so selected that no person was obliged to travel more than five miles to hear it read. Great and spontaneous enthusiasm was shown among all classes of the community, and large crowds of people attended at the selected centres to listen to the reading of the record and to take part in the subsequent festivities, or to share in the allotted doles of food and clothing. In many places the day was signalised by special Buddhist services, and in the town of Kęgalla divine services as prescribed for the occasion were held in the Protestant and Roman Catholic churches. Processions were everywhere formed in connection with the ceremony of reading the record, and in almost every village decorative arches, pandals, or pavilions, were erected. The accompaniments of native music and dancing, customary at festivals, prevailed everywhere. Food, and in many cases cloth, were distributed to some thousands of people. In the town of Kęgalla itself, about 500 poor people—300 children and 200 others—were fed and presented with clothing or money. Within the same narrow limits the number of decorative arches was 275, the majority of which were erected, not under orders or by headmen, but by the various householders of their own free will. Fuel for a network of sixty bonfires had been laboriously piled up on the summits of the highest mountains and hills throughout the District. Owing to the wet weather it was unfortunately impossible to kindle them successfully. The enthusiasm manifested by all classes of the people, even the very poorest, the pains which they took to show their loyalty each according to his means, and the energy evinced by the members of the several committees and by the headmen, have been most gratifying. The Assistant Government Agent has endeavoured to convey fitting expressions of appreciation and

thanks to all. Together with this report forwarded a resolution of the Kégalla Jubilee Committee to the effect that application be made to the Government for a grant of Rs. 1,350 (the amount which is already available by local subscriptions after paying all expenses of festivities, &c., and making allowances for our contributions towards the permanent memorial of the Colony in Colombo and the Imperial Institute) in aid of the erection of a native resthouse in Kégalla as a permanent local memorial of the jubilee. The Committee consists of more than thirty members, and is representative of all the interests of the District. The cost of such a resthouse, which should be constructed of the best and most durable materials, though simple in style and design, may be roughly estimated at Rs. 3,000. Its erection would meet a want which is much felt at present by all classes.

August 2.—Wrote to the Government Agent about a large land sale, and gave the opinions on the question which have been obtained from two planters of experience. They both think that 3,000 acres in the Kelani valley would find buyers. As to the demand of the native speculators (of the Moorman class) it is difficult to make a definite calculation. Mr. A is very decided in his opinion that a sale of this nature ought to be held not later than July, the chief reason being that time is required for ordering the proper supply of tea seed. Mr. B, on the other hand, thinks that October would suit the generality of buyers, who have not tea nurseries and have not made arrangements to procure seed. He also agrees with the Assistant Government Agent's views (1) that land in the Kelani valley is more in demand than land in Kalutara or elsewhere; (2) that the demand which now exists will decrease if it is not met by land being soon offered for sale.

August 9.—Sent circular to all schoolmasters in the District asking them for monthly returns of attendance, state of school buildings, &c. Without regular information of this sort the Assistant Government Agent cannot keep touch with the details connected with education, and he finds that spasmodic inspections and occasional inquiries caused by some communication or other received from the Director of Public Instruction are not sufficient to ensure a permanently satisfactory state of things. The careful and regular supervision which these monthly returns will facilitate will, it is hoped, be productive of practical good.

October 15.—To Rambukkana to hold meeting under Irrigation Ordinances of proprietors of lands likely to be benefited by repair of dam and channel at Andana-çlla. All the proprietors, except three, of land which would be benefited by the proposed work were present. They unanimously agreed as to the expediency of executing the work and as to the necessity for aid on the part of the Government. The specification required by the President of the Irrigation Board was prepared. Until a plan and estimate have been made the people will not be in a position to decide between the alternatives of repayment in ten yearly instalments or a rate of a rupee an acre in perpetuity.

REPORT ON THE NEGOMBO DISTRICT FOR 1887.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

THE returns of the revenue and expenditure of the Negombo District for 1887 are annexed.

Arrears of Revenue.—The decrease of Rs. 6,699·52 under this head merely indicates that there were less arrears to collect. There are no outstanding arrears in this District.

Customs.—The receipts under this head are necessarily fluctuating, and greatly depend on a good harvest on the neighbouring continent. The unusual deposit of sand in front of the lake openings prevented native vessels from coming to this port, and consequently they went to Colombo in preference.

Rents, exclusive of Land.—The increase under the head Ferry Tolls and the decrease under the head Bridge Tolls are simply matters of account.

The toll on the Maha-oya at Toppu was up to the middle of the year sold as a bridge toll, and for the last six months as a ferry toll, as there was no immediate prospect of a new bridge.

Licenses.—The amount due on account of the arrack rents during 1887 was Rs. 13,000 less than that due during 1886. The reduction in the amount realised by the sale of these rents is due to the general depression in trade and agriculture.

Stamps.—The decrease under the head Postage Stamps is due to these stamps not being vended as heretofore in the kachchéri, but supplied to the Postmaster direct from the Postmaster-General. The decrease in judicial stamps is probably due to the operation of the new Stamp Ordinance and the institution of fewer civil suits in the court.

Weather and Agriculture.—The weather during the first part of the year was very dry and hot. There was an unusual fall of rain at the end of the year. The paddy crops were fairly good. The cocoanut crops were in almost all cases short. The cinnamon crops were below the average.

1.—FOOD SUPPLY.

Paddy, fine grain, yams, and fruit of various sorts form the principal kinds of food. Of the paddy consumed I should say fully three-fourths of it is imported from India. The paddy grown in the District sells for Re. 1 per bushel, and the rice imported varies in price from Rs. 2·50 to Rs. 3 per bushel. In the Hapitigam kóralé paddy is not plentiful, in fact not sufficient for the people, who, as a rule, live a good deal on fine grain and roots. Rice from the coast of India can always be had, but the villagers have not always the wherewithal to purchase it.

In Alutkúru kóralé north there is no scarcity of locally-grown paddy. I would here add the reports of my predecessor for 1884 on this subject:—

The following list gives particulars of the grain and other vegetable foodp roduce of the District for the year, as estimated by the headmen:—

			Quantity.		Value.	
					Rs.	c.
Paddy	...	... bus.	173,100	...	185,284	0
Other Grain	...	... "	41,736	...	39,151	0
Coffee	...	... "	397	...	6,352	0
Tobacco	...	... lb.	69,900	...	52,425	0
Cinnamon	...	... "	1,988,790	...	615,097	50
Cocoanut	...	... nuts	84,204,800	...	2,315,610	0
Palmyrah	...	... "	6,000	...	293	0
			Total	...	3,214,212	50

Of the above, the paddy, dry grain, coffee, and palmyrah nuts are all consumed locally, the grain-supply being supplemented by large importations of Coast rice. Cassava, various kinds of yams, jak, and breadfruit, all of which grow abundantly in the District, contribute to the food supply, and with fish, of which large quantities are caught by the Negombo fishermen, not only off the Negombo coast, but also off the Mannár, Mullaittívu, and Trincomalee coasts, make up the food supply of the population. The cinnamon produced in the District is all exported to Colombo for shipment to Europe The tobacco, which is grown along the coast, is partly used locally for chewing and partly converted into cheroots by Jaffna traders resident in the District, but mostly exported in the shape of dried leaf by tobacco traders. Of the enormous cocoanut produce of the District, only a small portion is consumed locally as food, and of some four million trees in the District it is estimated that the produce of not more than ten thousand trees is used for toddy-drawing; of the surplus produce, some is converted by steam machinery locally into oil, poonac, and fibre, but the bulk of it leaves the District in the shape of copperah for sale in Colombo.

The District is not self-supporting in the important item of rice, but this want is more than amply counterbalanced by its enormous wealth in other natural products, including food supply. Though the smallest District in the Island, it is one of the wealthiest, and supplies renters of Government revenue in several different Provinces.

II.—REQUIRED LEGISLATION.

Some measures are urgently required to check the facility with which the people of the Island are able to make use of our courts as a means of paying off grudges and of getting innocent people punished.

During the time I was Magistrate here I did all I could to check this pernicious and vile custom by imposing Crown costs, and making complainants pay compensation for instituting frivolous charges, but I regret to say that I do not think much good has resulted.

All Magistrates should make it as difficult as possible for any man to institute a false case, or to prove a true case by false evidence (an every day occurrence in our courts).

Before ever a summons is issued a Magistrate should, by examining complainant and his witnesses, satisfy himself that an offence has really been committed, and I would suggest that every complainant be compelled to deposit a certain sum of money for each defendant and each witness before a summons is issued. There can be no doubt that as our courts are at present constituted there is nothing easier for a native man than to institute a false case, or to prove a case by false evidence; and until a check is put on this crime will increase. Perjury is the commonest offence in our courts, and yet how many are punished for it? Not twenty per annum I should say.

Every Magistrate or judge should have the power of punishing summarily and without elaborate proceedings every person who contradicts the evidence given by him at a former hearing or trial. The delay in bringing a perjurer to trial is in almost every case fatal.

III.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The works most required in this District are a new iron bridge over the Maha-oya at Toppu in place of the broken bridge; a new iron bridge at Dadugama in place of the old wooden one; a water supply for the town of Negombo; and the cleaning out thoroughly and deepening of the canal from Kaymel to the Kelani river.

IV.—ADMINISTRATIVE MEASURES.

As I assumed duties in November only I am not in a position to write on this subject yet.

V.—PLANS FOR IMPROVEMENT OF THE DISTRICT.

At present I have no special plans for the improvement of the District except the thorough cleaning out and repair of all existing canals and elas, a most necessary work and one which is, I regret to say, a good deal neglected at present. Also the putting in thorough repair of all village tanks; but as I so recently assumed duties I cannot at present give any definite information on this subject.

VI.—WORKING OF THE GRAIN TAX ORDINANCE.

The Grain Tax Ordinance works very well in the Negombo District; out of a sum of Rs. 30,581·14 due as tax, a sum of Rs. 30,165·17 was recovered, and the balance, Rs. 415·97, was struck off as crop commutation of uncultivated private and uncultivated Crown fields. The tax was collected within the year without recourse to the sale of a single piece of land.

This is the third consecutive year in which there has not been any sales. The collecting of the tax yearly in the year is very difficult, but every effort is made to do so.

VII.—SANITARY CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

A great deal of fever prevailed for several months in both kóralés, and to a most unusual extent in the Alutkúru kóralé.

The Government was called upon to assist the sufferers with medicine and food, and great praise is due to Mr. William Jardine, of Goluwapokuna estate, for his valuable services rendered during the time of the epidemic. In the town the people have the benefit of a good hospital and an outdoor dispensary, but beyond the town the people depend on native practitioners for medicine.

A dispensary, and a medical man capable of dealing with ordinary cases of sickness and accidents, is very much needed in the Hápitigam kóralé; in fact, I would much like to see two such dispensaries established, one at Minuwangoda and one at Mirigama, both very central places.

A water supply for the town of Negombo is much needed, but the estimated cost of the necessary works as supplied by Mr. Burnett places such an undertaking completely beyond the power of the Local Board.

VIII.—CRIME.

Crime prevails to a great extent throughout this District, especially cattle-stealing, but it is almost impossible to detect the thieves. Cases are instituted and attempted to be proved by false evidence, consequently about three out of four are dismissed.

Crimes of violence are frequent, and in the generality of cases I may say the offenders are punished, and in the District Court severely so.

There was one brutal murder perpetrated at Walpola, in a house alongside the principal road from Minuwangoda to Henaratgoda, and not discovered for some days. The murdered man's wife had a hand in this. The head, arms, and legs were severed from the body and carried away in gunny bags and thrown into an oya. The case has not as yet been heard in the Supreme Court.

There was another case of murder or culpable homicide on Waring's Bungalow estate, four miles from the town. The man was either murdered on the high road and dragged into the estate, or died from the wounds received whilst found in the act of cocoanut-stealing at night.

Subjoined is a list of the work done by the Assistant Government Agent as Additional District Judge during 1887 :—

Charge.	Section of Code.	Number of Cases.	Number of Accused.	Number of Persons		Cases in Appeal.	Result in Appeal.
				Convicted.	Acquitted.		
Hurt	314	1	3	2	1	—	—
Hurt by dangerous weapons	315	6	12	10	2	1	Affirmed
Grievous hurt	316	1	4	4	—	—	—
Grievous hurt by dangerous weapons ...	317	6	6	6	—	1	Affirmed
Hurt by means of poison	319	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hurt to public servant	323	1	1	1	—	—	—
Theft	367	2	2	2	—	—	—
Theft of cattle	368	9	19	17	2	2	Affirmed
Theft of prædial products	368	2	2	2	—	—	—
Theft in a building	369	—	—	—	—	—	—
Robbery	380	3	3	3	—	—	—
Criminal breach of trust	391	1	1	1	—	—	—
Cheating	400	1	1	1	—	1	Affirmed
Mischief	412	—	—	—	—	—	—
House-breaking by night	442	1	1	1	—	—	—
House-breaking to commit theft ...	443	1	1	1	—	—	—
Attempts to commit offences	490	2	2	1	1	—	—

IX.—HEALTH OF CATTLE.

There was an entire absence of disease amongst cattle throughout the District.

X.—NEW AREAS CULTIVATION.

In the Alutkúru kóralé only a few acres of land were opened for paddy cultivation. In Hapitigam kóralé about 220 acres were opened for cultivation of different kinds.

XI.—NATURE OF WORK OTHER THAN ROUTINE.

I assumed duties as Assistant Government Agent only in November, 1887.

XII.—EVENTS OF INTEREST AND IMPORTANCE.

The following are the events of interest and importance which have marked the history of this District during the year 1887 :—

(1) The establishment of telegraphic communication with Colombo, and consequently with the whole world ;

(2) An unusual epidemic of fever throughout the District lasting for some months ;

(3) The celebration of Her Majesty Queen Victoria's Jubilee on June 28. My predecessor's diary entry gives full particulars :—

June 28.—Celebration of Anniversary of Jubilee year of Her Majesty's reign. In Negombo we had most favourable weather for the occasion, and the celebration proved in every way a great success, from the pealing of bells at 6 A.M. until the orderly dispersion of the crowd of several thousands on the esplanade after midnight on the closing of the native circus, the last event of the day.

The programme for the day was as follows :—

6 A.M. to 8 A.M.—Pealing of bells in the town.

8 A.M. to 9 A.M.—Divine Service in the churches.

9 A.M. to 9.30 A.M.—More pealing of bells, to collect the people for the procession through the town.

9.30 A.M. to 10.30 A.M.—Procession from Assistant Government Agent's residence through the chief streets of the town and back to the esplanade.

10.30 A.M.—Reading of the Record in English, Tamil, and Sinhalese in three pavilions on the esplanade. After reading of the Record, singing of the National Anthem and firing of salute of 50 guns.

3 P.M.—Native dancing and masquerading on the esplanade. Brass band playing on esplanade.

7 P.M.—Illumination of the public buildings and town generally.

8 P.M.—Native circus (lasting till after midnight).

8.30 P.M.—Fireworks.

There was no accident and not a single instance of disorderly conduct to mar the success of the celebration.

June 29.—Holiday.

11.30 till 12 noon.—Pealing of bells to assemble the 1,000 poor (who had previously obtained tickets for the purpose) who were to be fed in honour of the anniversary.

12 noon.—About 500 poor men and boys and 500 women and girls, some in much want, and all needy, were fed in the temporary Road Defaulter's Prison. The food was cooked. Each recipient received a measure of rice, some pickled fish, pickled beef, jakfruit, breadfruit, and curry gravy.

3 P.M.—More native dancing and masquerading.

7 P.M.—Illumination of the public buildings and town.

7.30 P.M.—More acrobatic and circus performances.

8 P.M.—More fireworks.

The crowd dispersed at about midnight after the closing of the circus, and thus came to an end the second and concluding day of the festivities. The second day was as great a success as the first, and during it only one unimportant case of disorderly conduct required the attention of the police.

June 30.—Holiday.

It has been decided to erect a clock tower in the centre of the town to further commemorate the auspicious event, and the building will add considerably to the appearance of the town.

(4) The re-establishment of the Gaṇsabháwa tribunal in the Alutkúru kóralé, and the introduction of the Gaṇsabháwa Committee in the Hapiṭigam kóralé.

A small selection of diary entries for the year are appended, as they are considered interesting.

EVAN MABERLY BYRDE,
Acting Assistant Government Agent.

Negombo, March 15, 1888.

Extracts from Diary.

February 3.—Reported to Government Agent on the circular in *re* elephants and deer issued in consequence of Mr. Downall's motion in the Legislative Council.

In my opinion, from experience of five years in the forests and jungles of the Northern Province, the law regarding elephants is quite sufficient for their protection, and only needs enforcement in districts where they are being unduly destroyed. As regards deer the circumstances of the game are different, and such as to render any more game law for their protection likely to prove ineffectual. The only effectual way of checking their extermination must be sought in a repeal of the laws relating to the importation and manufacture of firearms, and heavy Customs dues on the import of firearms and on the export of deer hides, if indeed the unchecked importation of guns into the country in years past has not already brought us to a point at which it is hopeless by legislation to arrest the extermination of deer.

As regards so-called wild buffaloes, their destruction should be prohibited altogether: they are most useful animals for improving the village breeds, with which they mix freely, while as regards sport so few of them are really wild (in the Northern Province at least) that their destruction constitutes senseless and wasteful butchery, such as is also the destruction of herd elephants as distinguished from that of "rogues" or "tuskers." [*Vide* report No. 129 of February 8, 1887, to Government Agent.]

February 11.—During the forenoon I was engaged writing report on the working of the new Road Tax Ordinance in the District during the year 1886.

The chief points of notice compared with 1885 were: the decrease in percentage of men who paid at the single rate; increase of percentage of men who laboured, were arrested, fined, and committed; and decrease of percentage of men remaining at the end of the year undisposed of—namely, 7 per cent. for 1886 against 10 per cent. for 1885. [Vide report No. 30 of February 24 and 28, 1887, to Chairman Provincial Road Committee.]

February 15.—Engaged nearly all day in the District Court trying criminal cases. In one case an old offender, at present under sentence of imprisonment in two cases of robbery, was convicted of theft of a bullock and sentenced to two years' imprisonment and 25 lashes.

In another, one man out of a gang of three was convicted of highway robbery and sentenced to two years' imprisonment. They waylaid Mr. Jardine's tappal cooly on his way back to Goluwapokuna estate in the evening, with a small box which had been sent in by his master to get from the coach office, knocked him down, and robbed the man of the box. It however only contained toys as Christmas presents for children, so the robbers were rather disappointed with their booty! Only one of the men, evidently a gang, has as yet been arrested. In a third case, a man previously convicted of theft was convicted of attempting to rob a roadside almsbox belonging to St. Anthony's chapel, under circumstances which pointed strongly to the belief that the act was committed with a view to detection therein and fresh imprisonment, as the man had only been discharged from prison some two or three weeks before, and at his trial acquiesced in his conviction with much complacency.

There can, I think, be no doubt but these openly committed thefts by "return convicts" are frequently committed in order to secure a return to prison. A native may have some dread of prison before he has undergone sentence therein himself, but once he has done so and seen for himself the good food and easy times generally therein, sentence of imprisonment not only has no deterrent effect on him, but if he is a hardened criminal he actually courts return to it as comfortable quarters when business in his own particular line outside is slack; and the innate laziness of the Sinhalese character only increases this evil.

I am persuaded that the only remedy for this evil, which is increasing and yearly adding to enormous expense in prison maintenance, is to make diet a punishment. With the exception of work like that in the Mahara quarries or on the breakwater, there is really no hard labour in our prisons for long-sentenced men. The effect of acting on Sir Edward Creasy's advice to make rice and salt the sole prison diet for convicts would be an appreciable decrease in crime and an enormous decrease in the expense now incurred by Government on prisons.

March 3.—Reported to the Government Agent on the election of Gaṇsabháwa committees in the four subdivisions of the Hápiṭigam kóralé elected by the people thereof at meetings held by me last month in the kóralé. The people do not want the tribunal I believe, or have been persuaded to oppose it by the proctors at Pasyála. I did not however ask them to consent to it, as I believe that provided the Committees and Mudaliyár are empowered to try cases of gambling [said to be "ultra vires"?] the Mudaliyár and Committee form of the institution will suit this part of the District well enough for the present. The Mudaliyár has immense influence in the kóralé, and will work the Ordinance with the aid of the Committees well, but if they are not allowed to convict for gambling, the curse of the country—this part of it at least—I quite agree with the people that the institution will be of comparatively little benefit to them.

March 8.—Hápiṭigam kóralé division day. The road tax collections of the District at the single rate have surpassed my expectations. For 1886 the collections at the single rate amounted to 78¼ per cent. of the men liable, the Negombo District having been the best in the Province for last year. This year, however, the transfer of the collection of the tax from the subdivision headmen to the village headmen has resulted in 93 per cent. of the men liable having paid in at the single rate, and is expected to do better than last year, but this result surpasses all my expectations.

March 17.—Wrote to the District Engineer with regard to the practicability of a rough stone causeway between Munnakkare island and the rest of the town with a space in the centre for the passage of fishing boats. It might be done cheaply by prison labour with sandstone blasted on the Pamunugama peninsula, if the people concerned in the work will help the Local Board with free boat transport for the blasted stone and a satisfactory contract for blasting, as I do not care as Superintendent of the Prison to allow the convicts to be employed so far away from prison at the back of the peninsula. If the people will help as indicated, they can secure the convenience of such a causeway, but they deserve little consideration as they are so ungrateful for anything proposed for their benefit by the Board. There are only some 60 men paying the Board tax on the Island, and yet they are ungrateful because the Board refuses to spend Rs. 10,000 on an iron bridge to the miserable little islet occupied by them!

March 31.—From my diary from the 22nd to 29th of this month it will be seen that the people of the Alutkúru kóralé north, at fairly representative subdivision meetings, have at last consented to the re-establishment of the Village Tribunal, to which they have been hitherto steadily opposed since the compulsory retirement of the last President in 1883. The cause of his retirement was, I believe, intemperance, but the institution had for some years before his retirement become distasteful to the people, partly from their dislike of some of the rules relative

to the opening and repair of gaṇsabháwa roads and the castration and branding of cattle, and partly from their own litigiousness and abuse of the institution.

Successive attempts were repeatedly made to induce them to re-accept the institution, and elect fresh committees, particularly by the Government Agent in 1884, but without success. Last year I endeavoured again to persuade them to accept it, but met with the same continued opposition. This year I tried again and, somewhat to my own surprise, succeeded, the people having lately changed their minds, I believe, because of their experience of Crown costs during the last two years under the Penal Code and the energy shown by the Magistrate and in the Fiscal's Department in the recovery of these costs and imprisonment in default of payment thereof.

Be this as it may, they are now willing to accept the village tribunal again, but they impressed upon me at almost all the meetings that unless the tribunals could convict for gambling and suppress that evil (which is the curse of this part of the country and is increasing—the headmen not only conniving at it, but encouraging it and receiving commission from the gamblers—that, willing as they now were to accept it, it would be of no use to them as regards their greatest want.

I quite agree with them, and recommend not only that the Village Tribunal Ordinance be amended by giving the tribunals unquestionable right to try cases for gambling, but also to sentence defendants therefor to the full penalty for it under the Vagrant Ordinance, namely, one month's imprisonment, but also that the criminal jurisdiction of these tribunals be raised generally to one month's imprisonment.

This would not only go far towards the suppression of gambling, which is perhaps the most serious evil in the low-country demanding the attention of Government, but would pave the way ultimately for an Uncovenanted Service of native sub-magistrates (as in India) throughout the Island in time, a reform in which also retrenchment in the Civil Service would, coupled with retirement on pension and a decrease in the importation of cadets, be gradually practicable. [See remarks in my Administration Report for 1886 under the head "Legislation," and my report to the Government Agent on the subject of the re-establishment of the Village Tribunal in Alutkúru kóralé north.]

April 6.—Presided at public Jubilee meeting in the court-house at 3 P.M. Full notice was published, but only some 30 to 40 people attended the meeting, the natives in particular being conspicuous by their absence.

It was decided at last that the District should join in the presentation of the address and casket to Her Majesty, but that no contribution should be made either towards the Imperial Institute or the Colombo permanent memorial, and that in the event of sufficient subscriptions being forthcoming that a clock tower be erected in Negombo as a permanent memorial of the event, in addition to a local celebration on June 28.

A general committee was appointed to collect subscriptions and arrange details, the general committee being empowered to decide on the form of local permanent memorial in the event of a clock tower proving impracticable from want of funds.

April 14.—Reported to Government Agent on the proposed re-establishment of the village tribunal in Alutkúru kóralé north, and the establishment of the Mudaliyár and Committee form of Gaṇsabháwa in the Hapiṭigam kóralé. I do not recommend either unless they are legally empowered to convict for gambling. Cases of gambling are at present tried in some of the village tribunals, but such trials have been pronounced *ultra vires* by the Attorney-General, and it is not proper for the courts to break the law.

I would recommend that the Ordinance be amended with this object in view, namely the suppression of gambling by the Village Tribunals and Village Committees, and I would at the same time recommend the raising of the criminal jurisdiction of the former generally. *Vide* diary entry of March 31 last and reports referred to at end of same.

April 19.—Engaged in the District Court trying criminal cases. Heard two cases. In one, two men were charged with grievous hurt, and convicted. They assisted another man in an attempt to abduct a young woman, and on her offering resistance stabbed her and her cousin who ran to her rescue. The wounds were not severe, which was perhaps the reason for committing them for trial before the District and not the Supreme Court. They were sentenced to two years' imprisonment, and the headman warned to arrest the chief offender, a man of influence, who is evading arrest.

In the other case, cattle-stealing, defendants were acquitted, as I suspected the evidence to be false. The story for the prosecution was consistent, but ran too glibly for truth. In these cases a real thief often is before the court, but false evidence is offered of some fictitious instance of theft against him to get him imprisoned.

Again, in true cases there is often such an admixture of falsehood as to defeat the ends of justice and render the offender's conviction impossible.

In no other District have I observed such an admixture of falsehood with truth as there is here, judgment in consequence at times being no easy matter.

May 2.—The number of road tax defaulters under the District Road Committee remaining undisposed of on April 30 was 1,140, or between four and five per cent. of the total number of men liable to perform labour for the year

The number of defaulters under the new Local Board by-laws for road tax in Negombo town sanctioned by Government at the close of last year was on the 1st instant 638, or 15 per cent. of the total number of men liable. In both cases the improvement on last year is very marked. In the case of the Road Committee the improvement is attributable to the transfer of the collection of the tax from the vidané arachchies to the police vidané or village headmen, the latter being able from their local knowledge of the inhabitants to collect the road tax much more efficiently than the subdivision headmen. The transfer of duties is satisfactory also as affording a means of remunerating the petty headmen to some extent for their services generally. In the case of the Local Board the improvement is due to the new by-laws passed last year, the chief feature of which is the embodiment of the principle in the new Road Tax Ordinance of presuming non-election to commute the labour from the fact of non-payment of the commutation rate by a given date. In the case of Negombo the date fixed is May 1, to admit of the return of the local fishermen from the Northern and Eastern Provinces, on the coasts of which they are engaged fishing during the north-east monsoon. The anticipations of the Board have been realised, 85 per cent. of the men having paid the commutation rate by the 1st instant, whereas under the old by-laws it was with great difficulty that even 75 per cent of the tax was recovered for any year, and labour was never called out on the roads at all. It remains to be seen how the calling out of the labour on the town roads this year will result, but, from experience in the case of the Road Committee, I have no doubt but that a very fair proportion of the 15 per cent. of defaulters at present remaining undisposed of will turn out for labour. There is one defect in the by-laws, I think, namely, that in the event of prosecution before the Police Court for non-performance of labour and in default of payment of the Rs. 10 fine imposable by the Police Court, the defaulter can be sentenced only to simple imprisonment for a month instead of to hard labour, the Government therefore getting no renumerative work out of the defaulter in return for the cost of his maintenance in prison. The number of such cases however, it is hoped, will not be large.

May 10.—Reported suspended from office the vidane arachchi of Udugampola for connivance at the gambling out of which a murder occurred in December last, the accuseds in which case have been recently acquitted in consequence, I understand, of the unsatisfactory evidence given by the Kóralé Muhandiram at the trial. From information received by me from the magistrate, it now appears clear to me that all the headmen, down even from the Kóralé Mudaliyar, were more or less conniving at the gambling out of which the murder arose. The promoters of the gambling were influential men related to the vidané arachchi; the gambling appears to have been going on in an open and organised manner for several weeks, if not months, and yet none of the headmen reported the matter to me until it was too late to prosecute the offenders, the action having been prescribed.

In this same pattu in 1885 an irrigation headman was murdered at the instigation, it is believed, of other headmen, four of whom were dismissed from office, the accused in that case having escaped justice also. A second

murder has now been committed, with the same deplorable and scandalous result. It will, I think, be desirable this time, in addition to the dismissal of the headmen most to blame, to quarter a police force on the locality as a punishment to the people for their disorder, the people having connived at the gambling and shielding of the murderers as well as the headman.

Udugampola is near the railway line, and I have noticed that the localities of large villages near the line bear a bad reputation; they are, I believe, resorted to by bad characters who use the line for organising gambling and other nefarious operations. It might be well to quarter a police force at, say, Veyangoḍa with a branch station at Henaratgoḍa and Udugampola.

May 11.—Presided at 3 P.M. in the court-house at a large meeting of people of all classes in the town to arrange for details in connection with Her Majesty's Jubilee festivities and memorial.

The meeting this evening was rather successful, many Chetties and Moormen being present. Subscription lists were issued to the members of committee and sub-committees appointed for the carrying out of details. The Roman Catholics, who constitute nearly nine-tenths of the local population, wish to have the celebration postponed from June 28 to 29, the former being a day of vigil and abstinence, and the latter a festival. A resolution was passed on the subject and forwarded to Government for consideration.

May 14.—Presided at meeting of the Local Board. Besides ordinary business, passed a vote of Rs. 100 for the illumination of the public buildings on June 28 and a vote of Rs. 1,000 towards the clock tower which the local Jubilee Committee has decided should, if possible, be erected in the town as the permanent local memorial of the Jubilee.

May 25.—In the evening inspected the road from Pasyála to Mírigama. It is in fair order, but owing to the south-west rains is heavy at present. I regret to find that ague is prevailing to an unusually severe extent in not only the Hápiṭigam, but the Alutkúru kóralé this season, owing apparently to the long antecedent drought. I passed hardly a house to-day in the Pasyála road in which I did not see some fever patients, and a number of deaths have occurred. The ordinary ague from neglect or want passes readily into remittent fever, from which few recover. There are medical assistants itinerating in the District distributing medicine to the sick, and there being actual distress in some of the Paduwa caste villages I have obtained authority for the Kóralé Mudaliyár to issue rice in case of actual want.

June 11.—In court and kachchéri. Presided at 1 P.M. at meeting of the Local Board. In addition to ordinary business the Board passed by-laws for regulating the setting of nets at the mouth of the lake and in the channels of the lake, it having been brought to my notice last year by two gentlemen experienced in fishery matters, as well as by the local native fishermen themselves, that the fish supply at Negombo has been seriously decreasing for some years past. This is due partly to the capture of fry in destructive nets by the local katamaram fishermen at sea near the coast, by means of which the larger fish, which prey on the fry, are yearly driven further out to sea and their capture rendered more difficult, and partly to the incessant netting day and night at the mouth of the lake for prawns, which netting prevents the larger fish as well as the fry from entering the lake for feeding or breeding purposes. The close time recommended to me by Messrs. Ed. Jeffries and Chas. Byrde, the two gentlemen who brought the matter to my notice, they having fished in the lake and sea here for years past and noticed the decrease of the fish, is the same as that in force in European rivers and lakes, namely, from sunset on Saturday till sunrise on the following Monday morning, and for the same reason as in Europe, namely, that the local population being almost entirely Christian, and Sunday being with them a day on which they do not fish, that close time will suit the population here best as it does in Europe. The only people who will be inconvenienced will be the prawn catchers who will lose fishing for one night, Saturday, in the week, but they are a small class in the local community, and their slight inconvenience cannot be allowed to stand in the way of the interests of the entire population in such an important matter as food supply, of which fish is the most important item.

June 15.—In court and kachchéri all day at routine work. In addition, I tried two cases of cattle stealing in the District Court, both of which resulted in convictions.

At 4 P.M. presided at a meeting of the local Jubilee Committee, at which the members submitted their subscription lists (about two-thirds of the lists were submitted) and paid in subscriptions received to date, and at which final arrangements were made for the festivities. About Rs. 1,000 private subscriptions have been received in cash (in addition to those promised for the clock tower specially), and as the local festivities are not to cost more than about Rs. 500, there is thus in hand, including the Local Board contribution, Rs 1,500 towards the clock tower; and as its cost is not estimated at more than Rs. 3,000, we may yet be able, I hope, to carry out the plan.

Subscription lists are not to be closed for it for a few months longer, when if the clock tower proves impracticable, the private subscriptions will no doubt be handed over to the Victoria Home for Incurables in Colombo.

June 18.—Applied to Government Agent for authority to spend Rs. 200 in alleviating distress in Alutkúru kóralé north, consequent on the inability of poor families to provide themselves with food in consequence of the prevailing fever, which prostrates often a whole family at a time. This malarious fever is now prevailing over the whole District, and has assumed a serious aspect: not only is there distress, but much mortality from the fever, which in many cases becomes remittent. I am watching the death returns, and notice with regret a very high rate of mortality.

Mr. Jardine, the Superintendent of Goluwapokuna estate, has kindly volunteered to assist me in the relief of the distressed sick in his locality, and I find his ready co-operation and experience and knowledge of the people and this kind of distress, gained in the Polgahawęla and Kęgalla Districts during the similar distress there a few years ago, of the greatest use.

July 5.—Ague and remittent fever are prevailing badly throughout the District, and the mortality from them is unusually heavy; whole families are prostrated at a time, the breadwinners being thus unable to work, and relief works being of no use. I have already received authority to issue rice to families actually in distress from this cause. The fever and distress continue and increase. Telegraphed to-day for authority to incur further expenditure in relief of the distress; received authority by return telegraph, and issued further supplies to Mr. Jardine, in whose locality there has been much distress.

The kóralé Mudaliyár is distributing Government rice to those in actual distress in the Hápiṭigam kóralé, and medical assistants are stationed at Mírigama and Minuwangoḍa, as well as in Negombo town, in addition to itinerating dispensers combating the fever.

Fever powders are also being issued by me through the headmen.

The protracted drought of the last year and the fitful and defective nature of the present south-west rains appear to be the cause of the present unhealthiness of the country.

It is significant that it is just ten years since the great Indian Famine and cholera year, and that we have reached the period of minimum "sun spots" during the decade since that time. We are fortunate in having escaped a bad periodical epidemic of cholera this year, but the mortality from the malarious fever at present prevailing is even greater than that caused by cholera in the last bad cholera year in Ceylon, namely, the Madras Famine and cholera year of 1887.

July 18.—Wrote to the Government Agent explaining, with reference to a by-law recently passed by the Local Board and forwarded for the sanction of Government, relative to a local fisheries close time and prohibition of the use of certain destructive nets, why from sundown on Saturday till sunrise on Monday is a better close time than say the whole of Wednesday and the whole of Saturday. Sunday was selected by the Local Board for the same reason that it has been by the fisheries authorities in the British Isles, namely, because the population in the latter is Christian by religion (nine-tenths of the Negombo population is Christian) and Sunday being a *dies non* in Christian countries, fishermen therein do not lose a day's work in the week, as they would if any other day of the week were selected; and, again, experience in Europe has shown that 36 hours' continuous close time is of more benefit to the fish than 24 hours, with an interval, twice a week.

July 26.—Drove from Mírigama to Pasyála and back in the morning, inspecting the minor road. Gravel piled but not yet spread, and nothing yet done to side drains. Labour scarce owing to the fever.

In the evening Mr. Clark, the Forester, and Mr. Thompson, Conservator of Forests, arrived by rail from Colombo. I met them at the resthouse; they had just returned from inspecting the Pogonaruwa and Lindara chénas, planted with jak, doma, and lunumedilla in Mr. Green's time on planting leases. Mr. Thompson thinks them very successful, and that their extension will solve very satisfactorily one of our local Forestry questions.

The planters of the plantations get the use of the land after it has been cleared of useless timber for four years, taking all the produce of the crops, cassava, &c., reared thereon, and in return planting the land with useful trees and keeping it fenced properly. The tree-planting would be supervised by the Forester, who would then at the end of the planting lease take over the land on behalf of Government and develop the plantation.

These plantations should prove very valuable eventually both to the State and the people.

I recommended their extension some two years ago under proper Forestry management when provided on the lines of Mr. Vincent's report, and as there would appear to be now some prospect of our obtaining the latter the matter will, it is to be hoped, receive the attention which it deserves.

September 26.—I regret to record the sudden death from pneumonia last night of poor old Mirando Mudaliyár, the valuable and much respected interpreter of the District Court.

All the Judges under whom he served here held a high opinion of him, shared in universally by the people throughout the District. I first made his acquaintance in 1871, when attached as Justice of the Peace to the local courts, and during the last three years, having been associated with him in work as Additional District Judge, have had the advantage of and the opportunity of appreciating his ability and integrity as an interpreter in both the native languages.

I had recently, on account of these qualifications as well as strong claims for promotion, recommended him for the office of President of the Village Tribunal of Alutkúru kóralé north, about to be re-established in the District, and looked forward to seeing him fill the office with credit to himself and the Government as well as advantage to the people.

September 7.—Hápiṭigam kóralé division day. The gram tax of this kóralé has nearly all been collected, as also that of Alutkúru kóralé north, and I hope to close the accounts in full, without recourse to sale of lands, by the end of the month.

September 6.—In the evening I drove out to Minuwangoḍa by engagement with the Government Agent, and met him there to consider the question of the sale by public auction, or the transfer by public contract to the present lessees, of the boutique sites on Crown land forming the bazaar at this important centre in the District. Decided to allow the lessees the different holdings occupied by them at the appraised value of the sites and holdings, minus value of materials of the boutiques, payable in four annual instalments, if they choose to avail themselves of this offer, which would bring in to the revenue within four years Rs. 30,000.

October 15.—Routine work in the Kachchéri. Opened tenders for the masonry work of the Negombo Jubilee clock tower, which is to be built, it is proposed, of Pamunugama sandstone on the plot of ground between the kachchéri and the banyan tree, and which will be a very handsome structure if carried out on the plan kindly furnished to the Local Jubilee Committee by Mr. Bingham, the District Engineer, with the help of a brother officer in the Public Works Department of special experience in architecture.

His Excellency was pleased on one occasion in my diary to express doubts if the local committee would ever raise more money for the purpose than would perhaps pay for the foundations of the tower. He will now be glad to learn that not only are there sufficient subscriptions to complete the tower, but also to pay for the expensive clock required for it.

The only question remaining to be decided is whether the tower shall be built of Pamunugama stone or of brick with cement facing, and this will be decided by the Engineers on examination of the site and decision as to the nature of foundations required. If cement concrete is required for the more handsome and expensive tower, then it will have to be abandoned in favour of the brick tower, but I am in hopes that, so near as the site is to the sandstone reef forming Negombo Point, we may strike on the sandstone rock itself in *situ* before we excavate very deep. I enclose a tracing of the clock tower designed by Mr. Bingham, for His Excellency's information, and beg that it may be returned to my successor with the diary.

November 17.—Went out to Minuwangoḍa on road inspection and to have up defaulters for not working on roads or paying road tax.

Immediately after breakfast I went off to Asgiriya to inspect the scene of an atrocious murder. The wife and son of the murdered man were present as accuseds. The wife showed me the spot in the garden behind the house where she said she saw her paramour, Brampi Siñño, brother of the village headman, burying the cotton pillow on which her murdered husband was sleeping on the night of the murder; on my having the earth carefully removed the charred remains of a cotton pillow were found together with a cloth purse, at once recognised by the wife as her deceased husband's. Some way beyond this the woman pointed out an abandoned well in which she said the bill-hook would be found, and on search a new bill-hook was found in water waist deep. I took charge of the bill-hook and the purse, and after making a rough sketch of the premises I examined a few witnesses, and, having no interpreter, I was engaged all the afternoon and did not get back to Minuwangoḍa till past 6 P.M.

I feel satisfied that the woman buried the pillow herself and also threw the bill-hook into the well, though she accuses Brampy Siñño of both these acts. The murdered man's head was severed from his body and the arms and legs were cut off, and then all removed in gunny bags and thrown into the Attanagaha-oya not far from the Honaratgoḍa railway station. The children of the deceased say that they saw their mother and brother (accused) cutting off the arms and legs, and that Brampy Siñño stood looking on, and that he and the brother removed the body in the gunny bags. A kerosine oil lamp was burning in the room all the time, and it seems almost incredible that the wife and son of the deceased should commit so cold-blooded a murder. Brampy Siñño, I feel sure, was there, and must have helped the woman. The deceased was probably drugged and whilst asleep had his head cut off. I could not discover any motive for such a brutal murder. The eldest daughter is about fifteen, and the son about seventeen years of age. Brampy Siñño bears, I was told, a bad character in the village, and I am inclined to think that he was making improper advances to the daughter, and very likely the father noticed this and spoke about it. The murder took place in a house bordering the principal road from Minuwangoḍa to Honaratgoḍa just at the 25th milepost, and is one of the most cold-blooded murders I have ever had to do with. The Mudaliyár and headmen have the strictest orders to make every inquiry, and I hope that the whole truth will come out. The Police Magistrate is further investigating the case. The usual postmortem was of course held, but not till several days after death, as the remains were not found till a kabaragoya was seen eating a leg.

On my return I had up several defaulters, and exempted those deserving of exemption and fined them who could have worked but failed to do so.

November 19.—I must say I was very pleased to find the principal roads I travelled over in such good order. The Kotugoḍa road is a little uneven, but otherwise all the roads I found excellent, and I was quite surprised considering all the abuse the present system has called forth.

December 6.—Early this morning in company with the District Engineer, Mr. Bingham, I inspected the small irrigation work across the Diyahanda-ela at Kurana Katunayaka, and found the three iron doors and wooden frame in good order; but all the masonry work has given way, foundation, wing-walls, and flooring. This work was constructed by the Public Works Department in 1867 for irrigating the tract of field called Kirimetiyaya, and has proved of great use I am told. Mr. Bingham did not know of the existence of this work, and no one appears to have been in charge of it all these years. The old vel-vidáné who had charge of the iron key for opening and shutting the doors died some time ago, and after his death his son-in-law took charge of the key and produced half of it on my inspection. I wrote a special letter to the Government Agent reporting the present state of this work, and asked him to call upon the Public Works Department to put it in thorough working order.

REPORT ON THE KALUTARA DISTRICT FOR 1887.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

THE revenue of the Kalutara District showed a considerable increase in 1887 over the previous year.

Arrears of Revenue.—The decrease is due to the smaller amount to be recovered. A decrease under this head is satisfactory if due to such a cause.

Land Sales.—The increase under this head is in consequence of the sale for tea cultivation of some 3,000 acres of land in the Pasdun kóralé.

Licenses.—The increase is due principally to the fact that a large number of still licenses were issued at the end of December, and the amount realised thereby was credited to the revenue of 1887. Applications for distilleries are usually made in the first three months of the year. It is not till April that distillation actually begins, and consequently it would seem at first sight strange that the distillers should choose to forego a quarter's interest by applying for licenses three months before they require them. In explanation of this, the arrack renters (who strongly objected to the issue of the licenses) state that the applicants desire those licenses merely to enable them to retain and sell arrack by retail illicitly. The possession of a license by entitling a distiller to hold arrack affords facilities for illegal disposal at the stills in spite of all precautions. The possible abuse of the licenses did not, however, appear to my predecessor to be a sufficient legal ground for refusing to grant them.

Stamps.—The decrease in postage stamps is owing to the fact that the Postmaster now obtains stamps from Colombo instead of buying them at the kachchéri. The ordinary stamp vendors buy only a small quantity. There is a slight decrease both in revenue and judicial stamps. The higher rate of duty imposed by Ordinance No. 43 of 1884 has resulted in a falling off in the revenue.

Taxes.—The decrease is due to the reduction of the Pánadurá police limits, which relieved a large portion of the town from liability to taxation.

Reimbursements.—The increase under this head is caused by the large amount of survey fees paid upon the blocks sold for tea in the Pasdun kóralé.

Railway Receipts.—Railway traffic receipts are not credited at Kalutara. This must be borne in mind when comparing the percentage which the expenditure bears to the revenue with, for instance, the Kandy District, where two-thirds of the revenue is derived from the railway. The trifling sum credited under the head *Railway Receipts* is the rent of small portions of cocoanut land which were acquired for the railway, and are consequently entered in favour of that Department.

There is a slight decrease in the expenditure, but the separate items call for no remark. The percentage which the expenditure bears to the revenue is 26 in 1887 as against 30 in 1886.

I.—FOOD SUPPLY.

In treating the question of the food of the people, the different kóralés should be considered separately.

The Pasdun kóralé has a purely agricultural population depending almost entirely upon field cultivation for the means of subsistence. Practically no imported rice is consumed in the kóralé, with the exception of what is taken by the small force of Tamil coolies on the estates. The population of the Pasdun kóralé is about 34,000, and the extent of arable land, according to the commutation register, is 40,000 bushels with an outturn of at least 200,000 bushels of paddy, equivalent to six bushels per head of population. A large proportion of the crop, however, finds its way to the Kalutara Totamuné in payment of the bone manure which is universally used in the cultivation of fields in the Pasdun kóralé. For every bag of bone supplied two bags of paddy have to be paid at the time of harvest. Few villagers can afford to pay cash, and dealers in bone make large profits. For every bushel of seed paddy an equal quantity of bone is used, and probably 50,000 bushels would not be an extravagant estimate of the amount taken out of the kóralé on this account.

There is no chena cultivation to speak of, nor is it necessary, for the extent of paddy land is so large, exceeding one bushel's sowing extent per head, that the supply of grain is sufficient to meet the requirements of the inhabitants. The beneficial effects of Sir Charles Layard's policy in restricting chenaing are now apparent. The people have been thus forced to weddumise marshy lands which were formerly allowed to lie waste, and there are large tracts of chenas of twenty-five years' growth and upwards which would otherwise have been worthless, but are now suitable for tea.

Very little animal food is consumed, and the absence of poultry is specially noticeable. The only explanation given is, that the villagers are such strict Buddhists that there is no market for fowls and ducks. The opening of new estates will probably modify these scruples.

The Rayigam kóralé, with a population of nearly 60,000, has 37,000 bushels of paddy sowing extent. The soil is much more fertile than in the Pasdun kóralé, and the yield is about 25,000 bushels, giving a little over four bushels a head. The people are, however, better off than in Pasdun kóralé, for in the Munwattabáge pattuwa, which borders the sea, and is the most populous division, large quantities of fish are obtained, and the acreage of cocoanut land is very great. As the soil is good, gardens, of which very few are to be seen in the Pasdun kóralé, are numerous. A large quantity of imported rice is consumed principally in populous villages, such as Potupitiya, Wádduwa, and Kuḍá Waskaḍuwa, on the sea coast. Its price varies from Rs. 2·50 to Rs. 4, and it is plentiful. In the course of the last year about Rs. 150,000 has been paid to Sinhalese villagers in the Pasdun and Rayigam kóralés by the tea estates in this District, thus providing a considerable population with the means of purchasing an ample supply of food.

In the Kalutara and Pánaduré Toṭaṁunas the inhabitants mainly depend upon imported rice, Pasdun kóralé also supplying a considerable amount. The population, including the town of Kalutara, is about 90,000, and there is only 17,000 bushels paddy sowing extent. The yield is good, however, and the outturn about 130,000 bushels. This is manifestly insufficient for the population, which is, however, fully able to purchase Coast rice. Not more than one-fourth of the population own paddy fields. Cocoanuts and fish, however, constitute a mine of wealth, and the great bulk of the population are above want. The price of Coast rice has varied from Rs. 2·50 to Rs. 3·25, and it has been plentiful.

II.—LEGISLATION.

(1) The question of arrack is the one of most importance to this District. So far as I can see, the Ordinances relating to arrack merely require consolidation, but the fee for a distillery license should be increased to Rs. 500 or Rs. 1,000, and the license should be subject to forfeiture if it were proved to the satisfaction of the revenue officer that retail sale had been illicitly carried on at any distillery.

(2) The Criminal Procedure Code requires amendment. There can be no doubt that where it differs from the Indian Code, upon which it is based, the change is for the worse. The summary procedure under the Indian Act should have been taken over as it stood. At present the most trifling offences require an elaborate course of procedure, which is entirely out of place, however suitable it may be to really serious crimes.

(3) Penal Code. It might be provided that in cases of cattle-stealing Police Magistrates should be empowered to impose lashes, and further that they might be inflicted in the village where the offence was committed. It would also seem that the punishment of flogging is as appropriate to professional housebreakers as to a villager who steals a handful of arecanuts.

(4) Civil Code. It is to be hoped that the present year will see the codification of our Civil Procedure completed.

(5) The tax upon firearms should be annual.

(6) A small stamp duty might be levied in Gaṇsabháwa cases.

(7) The law should be amended to enable assessment tax to be recovered within the year for which it is due.

(8) It is, I fear, hopeless to expect any readjustment of taxation in the form of a land cess, yet it is difficult to see how one can possibly defend our present system, which makes 600,000 acres of paddy land pay Rs. 1,000,000 to the revenue, whilst a similar extent of cocoanut land is absolutely free from taxation. If the 1,600,000 acres of land under cultivation in Ceylon were to pay 75c. per acre, the present paddy tax being abolished, the revenue would show an increase, whilst the adoption of such a plan would undoubtedly give a great impetus to the production of rice, and possibly induce European capitalists to take up its cultivation. It is highly improbable that so light a charge would check the opening of cocoanut or other estates. It is sometimes argued that in the shape of Customs duties estates contribute their due quota, but where paddy lands, as in Pasdun kóralé, use imported manure largely, they are subject to heavy indirect taxation in addition to the commutation tithe.

III.—PUBLIC WORKS REQUIRED.

Roads.

The opening of the road from Néboḍa to Matugama along the trace made by Mr. Murray should be undertaken as soon as the Public Works Department have completed the road through Tebuwana to Néboḍa, which will, I hope, be in the course of the next six months. The District Road Committee is opening up the present path from Néboḍa to Warakagoḍa, and is also undertaking the extension of three other existing roads in the neighbourhood of the tea estates, but Murray's trace, though only four miles in length, is beyond its resources. This road is urgently required in the interests of the planters and natives equally, and should certainly be undertaken by Government. Of the two other roads mentioned in last year's report, that leading to Ratnapura *viâ* Nambapána is under construction, and will be completed in the course of the year; the second, from Morapiṭiya to the boundary of Kukulu kóralé, is being cleared by the Committee. To complete this thoroughfare Government aid would be required, but there are other works more urgent.

Bridges.

(1) As pointed out in last year's report, a bridge is required over the Bolgoḍa lake on the Pánaduré-Nambapána road. The width of the span will be reduced another 20 ft. in the course of a few months, and there can be no doubt that the coach will adopt this route as soon as a bridge is put up. The cost will not exceed Rs. 20,000, and the thoroughfare from Ratnapura will then be complete.

(2) The Nambapána-ela bridge is under construction. Other bridges should be postponed till the completion of that at Bolgoḍa.

Irrigation.

(1) The Nikatu-ela again appears as the work of most importance to be undertaken under the Irrigation Ordinance. One sluice gate is considered sufficient by the officer whose plans are now under consideration.

(2) The deepening of the Talpiṭiya flood outlet is a work urgently required in the interests of the villagers who own fields in the neighbourhood of the Bolgoḍa lake. At present the outlet only acts in times of exceptional flood, and in ordinary rains the water cannot be carried off with sufficient rapidity, and crops are consequently damaged.

(3) The repair of the Hínaṭiyaṇgala-ela, a most useful work, should be undertaken as early as possible. The majority of landowners interested have passed a resolution offering to contribute a share towards the repair of the sluice gate, for which an estimate has been prepared, if Government will grant aid.

General Works.

(1) The Bentota railway may now be considered sanctioned, though the Haputalé extension, with which it was linked, has alone been mentioned in published despatches. A rough estimate of

the value of the land to be acquired, amounting to Rs. 48,000, has been prepared. There can be no question of the value of the railway to the District as a whole, though, of course, carters and those dependent on them will at first suffer some loss.

(2) A new Police Court. The present building is uninhabitable during heavy rain, and is utterly unsuited to the requirements of a place like Kalutara.

(3) A public cemetery at Payyágala.

(4) A post office at Matugama. This might be at first a branch of the one established at Nęboḍa. Matugama is rapidly increasing in importance. The new estates lately opened in its neighbourhood will require a post office, and it is already the place of most importance in this part of the District: there is a hospital and dispensary with a resident doctor, it is the headquarters of the Mudaliyár and President who holds court there, and dealers in plumbago find it a convenient centre.

IV.—ADMINISTRATIVE MEASURES.

Village tribunals have now been working for a year in the Pasdun kóralé. It is perhaps premature to express a decided opinion as to the benefits that have resulted from their establishment. There is one detail which I am decidedly of opinion impairs their efficiency, and that is, the rule that they must be self-supporting—in other words, that the fines inflicted during the month must be sufficient to pay the cost of establishment; otherwise the peons and the clerk have to wait for their pay. This is well known to villagers, and if fines are inflicted on them, say, for not sending their children to school, they attribute it to the fact that the funds of the tribunal are low. That subordinate officers of a court should have a direct interest in swelling the amount of fine money, appears highly dangerous. A trifling stamp duty in gansabháwa cases, as suggested under the head "Legislation," would be amply sufficient to cover any possible loss to Government if the village tribunal establishment were paid out of general revenue.

The working of the village committees is likely to be successful in the Pasdun kóralé, where the inhabitants appear to be more willing to join in communal labour than in other parts of the Kalutura District.

The public works now in course of construction are, the road to Ratnapura *viá* Nambapána, including the building of a bridge over the Nambapána-ęla, at a cost of Rs. 10,000; (2) and the road to Nęboḍa. A vote for building a bridge over the Tebuwana-ęla on this latter road was passed in the Supply Bill, but was contingent on the success of the pearl fishery. The work has not yet been begun, and the foundations cannot now be put in till the burst of the monsoon is over.

V.—PLANS FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE DISTRICT.

(1) As regards irrigation, what is principally required are channels with regulating sluice gates to carry off superfluous water, excess rather than scarcity being the main cause of damage to crops in this District. It is however extremely difficult to induce the people to contribute their share in labour or money of the cost of such works. Most of the existing ęlas merely require clearing and occasionally straightening to prove thoroughly serviceable—work which should be undertaken by the persons benefited. In the Pánaduré district fields are damaged by the influx of salt water from the sea, and it has been proposed to build bunds along certain portions of the Bolgoḍa lake to obviate the evil. It is however feared that the cost of any such embankment would not be commensurate with the benefit to be derived therefrom.

(2) In the Pasdun kóralé what is most required is a careful revision of the Grain Tax Register. The soil is very poor, a great portion being peat bog, which requires very heavy manuring to produce a crop. In determining the rate of assessment the nature of the soil should be taken into consideration. A field which without manuring produces ten-fold should not be assessed at the same rate as one which without the aid of manure only produces five. In the Pasdun kóralé the cultivator expends more capital in extracting eight-fold from the soil than the Rayigam kóralé fieldowner in obtaining ten.

(3) The number of fields paying half and one-fourth duty is in this District very large. Much more liberal terms should, I think, be offered to induce the owners to redeem the difference of taxation between one-half or one-fourth and one-tenth.

There appears to be no reason why a man who plants without permission a piece of Crown land with cocoanuts should be allowed after ten years' possession to have it for nothing, whilst his neighbour who obtains sanction to convert a Crown low land into a paddy field is saddled with the payment of half share in perpetuity, unless he is able to pay a considerable sum by way of redemption. A man may have paid to Government half share for forty years, and yet it is only by payment of eight times his yearly tax (which varies generally from Rs. 5 to Rs. 10 an acre) that he can reduce his liability to the payment of the ordinary tithe.

(4) The extension of small gardens, whether planted with tea or with ordinary fruits, such as pineapples, mangosteens, and oranges, would undoubtedly add greatly to the comfort of the people. The Pasdun kóralé is suited admirably for tea though the soil is not rich. At Bandáragama, in the Rayigam kóralé, the agricultural instructor appointed by the Director of Public Instruction has been most successful with his garden. He has demonstrated satisfactorily that the cultivation of arrowroot and dhall will pay handsomely, and that there is not the slightest difficulty in growing them in ordinary soil.

(5) The system introduced by Mr. Cameron of granting chenas on condition that they should be planted with permanently useful trees has worked well, and though it is to be regretted that more villagers have not availed themselves of these terms, yet an increasing area is yearly being added to the extent of land under cultivation.

VI.—WORKING OF THE GRAIN TAX ORDINANCE.

The number of lots sold in 1887 was slightly higher than in 1886, but the sales to private parties showed a decrease. The figures for the last three years are:—

	1885.	1886.	1887.
To private parties ...	176	96	72
To Crown ...	402	129	272

The sales to private parties are the real criterion of the working of the Ordinance. The purchases by the Crown are only of lands so unfertile that no one cares to purchase them even for the amount of tax due, which may not be more than Rs. 5 an acre. The "purchase" of one-half duty lands by the Crown is really fictitious. The return might almost be headed "Lands which have reverted to the Crown for non-payment of rent." In the case of lands purchased by the Crown the former holders can always obtain them again by payment of the tax and a small sum for costs, and they are not therefore permanently deprived of them. Last year all fields purchased by the Crown were restored to their original holders. Of the 72 lands sold to other parties, but 46 were one-tenth lands, and it is therefore only in this number of cases out of an apparent total of 299 that instances of hardships may arise. Of the 46 many were sold owing to disputes among shareholders, and purchased by one of the co-owners, and in a few instances mortgagees were the purchasers, obtaining a clean title without the trouble and expense of putting their mortgages in suit. No difficulty was found in recovering the tax within the year.

VII.—Sanitary Condition of the People.

The Rayigam kóralé maintained its reputation as the healthiest part of the Western Province. There is an outdoor dispensary at Bandáragama which is visited once a week by the Assistant Colonial Surgeon of Pánaduré. No other European medical treatment is obtainable in the kóralé, and it might therefore be advisable to have a qualified person permanently in charge of the dispensary.

The health of the Kalutara District was not satisfactory, much fever and dysentery prevailing; the dispensaries at Pánaduré, Kalutara, and Béruwala, however, being the means of obtaining treatment within the reach of everyone. The Pasdun kóralé has during the last two or three years suffered severely from fever. The inhabitants attribute it to the opening of the new tea estates. The clearing of dense vegetation would naturally have exactly the opposite effect, but it is possible that the disturbance of the soil in malarious districts may at first tend to increase fever.

There is a dispensary at Matugama with a branch at Moragala. No less than 6,000 new cases were treated in the course of the year, which shows both the unhealthiness of the district and at the same time the readiness of the villagers to place themselves under European treatment. The Assistant Colonial Surgeon at Matugama also visits the estates whenever there is an outbreak of sickness. Mr. Knight, of Gikiyanakanda, largely distributed fever medicines supplied by Government, and the villagers in that part of the kóralé are under great obligations to that gentlemen for his kindness.

In the course of last year a paraṇgi hospital was established, and has since been maintained, at Matugama by the munificence of His Excellency the Governor. It contains two wards, female and male, with twelve beds in each. It has been full for some months, the sufferers gladly availing themselves of its benefits. The disease shows itself readily amenable to treatment supplemented by good food and enforced cleanliness. Most of the cases come from villages in the north-east corner of the Pasdun kóralé, bordering the Sabaragamuwa District, where food is scarce and fever prevalent. A large number of persons have been discharged cured, or at any rate permanently benefited.

VIII.—Crime.

The Pasdun kóralé was remarkably free from serious crime, with the single exception of cattle-stealing. The communal system of branding is being adopted, and the registration of all cattle has been made compulsory. It will take some time to work the system thoroughly, but when once started there will undoubtedly be a diminution of this crime. The Police Magistrate is making occasional circuits in the kóralé with the view of trying offenders on the spot, which it is hoped will have a deterrent effect. In the Rayigam kóralé and Pánaduré district there was the normal amount of crime, but in the Kalutara Toṭamune there was a slight decrease.

IX.—Cattle Disease.

No cases were reported from any part of the District.

X.—New Areas of Cultivation.

The tea industry is rapidly extending both in the Rayigam and Pasdun kóralés. The latter kóralé appears specially suitable for its cultivation, as it lies wholly within the wet zone (over 100 in. yearly rainfall). Some 3,000 acres were sold in October last, and nearly the whole of this is now being felled. From a return carefully compiled by the Secretary of the Kalutara Planters' Association, it appears that there are 5,799 acres under cultivation, and in the course of the present year another 1,000 acres will probably be planted with tea. There are very large tracts of land in the Pasdun kóralé suitable for this cultivation, not merely in the neighbourhood of the existing group of estates, but towards Badureliya and Héwessa. In Rayigam kóralé, estates formerly abandoned are again being cleared, and though the rainfall is not as great as in the Pasdun kóralé, the quality and yield of the leaf seems highly satisfactory. Only a small extent of paddy land has been asweddumised during the past year. Nor is this to be wondered at when the disadvantages to which it is subject are considered.

XI.—Events of Importance.

The establishment of a hospital at Matugama and the sale of 3,000 acres of land, to which allusion has already been made, were the events of most importance to the District.

H. L. CRAWFORD,
Acting Assistant Government Agent.

Extracts from Diary.

January 17.—Inspected the permanent works on the new Millęwa road, for the construction of which a sum of Rs. 400 was last year voted by the District Road Committee and handed over to the Mudaliyár. Nine bridges with masonry abutments and milla posts and planks and four masonry culverts have been put up at a cost of something over Rs. 500. The work done appears to be solid and good, and if after a professional inspection it is pronounced to be so, it will show what can be done with a comparatively small sum by careful and personal supervision. Some of the works are not quite complete, and I must obtain a small supplementary vote to enable the Mudaliyár to finish them.

January 24.—Discussed with the Mudaliyár and the Medical Officer the establishment of a temporary paraṇgi hospital at Matugama, and went into details as regards cost of starting it. Both agree, that whereas there would be difficulty in getting patients to go in to Kalutara for treatment, there will be none should a hospital be established in the kóralé itself, and the confidence with which the people now flock to the dispensary here argues well for the success of the scheme.

February 8.—Mr. Seneviratna, the newly-appointed Mudaliyár of Pasdun kóralé, arrived. Discussed with him matters connected with the district of which he is about to take charge. He will remain in Kalutara to-morrow to acquaint himself with details of work, which he can best gather in the office itself, and then proceed to take over from Mr. Tilakaratna, who will then be free to take up his new duties. I much regret Mr. Tilakaratna's departure from a district with which he has now made himself thoroughly acquainted, and in which he has done much good work. He has overcome many difficulties with which he had to contend when he first took charge of the kóralé, and he leaves the district in a far better state of organisation than he found it in. It has given me pleasure to observe the consideration with which he has treated the people under his charge and the thoroughly conscientious manner in which he has discharged his important duties.

March 12.—Started at 8 A.M. to walk to the foot of the range of hills which separates the Pasdun from the Kukulu kóralé—the watershed being the boundary—accompanied by the Mudaliyár, Muhandiram, and Superintendent of Minor Roads. This distance proved to be only two and a half miles, and I have made arrangements for the immediate commencement of the extension of the road to this point (the foot of the hills at Morapiṭiya). I look upon the establishment of intercommunication between this District and Sabaragamuwa through the Kukulu as scarcely less important to the improvement of both Districts than the connection now slowly progressing between Pánaduré and Ratnapura *viâ* Nambapána; and I am very strongly of opinion that the work of road tracing (for which a sum of Rs. 1,150 has been voted for 1887) should be applied to effect a junction between Kukulegama and the Pasdun kóralé, rather than between Kukulegama and Idangoḍa. In three months we shall have finished the road up to within three miles of the Pasdun kóralé boundary, and would gladly go on further were we not diffident of our powers of taking what will eventually be a most important arterial thoroughfare over this steep range of hills without scientific assistance. There are four important points of intercommunication to be established between this District and its neighbours, and this is the only one of the four cases in which we of the Kalutara District have not already reached the boundary. They are :—

1. On the north, between the Piṭipana road, Colombo District, and the road from Horana to Talagala.
2. On the east, between Nambapána and Kuruggammódara.
3. Also on the east, between Morapiṭiya and Kukulegama.
4. Between Pęlawatta and Piṭigala.

March 13.—Walked to Horagoḍamukulána, recently purchased by Mr. Shelton Agar, about a mile and a half distant from Baduraliya on the south, altogether 373 acres in extent, nearly 300 acres of which have been now planted up with tea interspersed with cocoanuts and arecanuts. I look for great benefits to the Sinhalese of the neighbouring villages when the plucking and manufacture of tea commences. I should be very glad to see a few estates opened on the hills beyond Morapiṭiya, adjoining the trace of the proposed new road to Kukulegama.

April 14.—One Allis Appu, of Welkandale, represented to me that he had applied for about an acre of land adjoining his paddy field, a portion of which he had already planted, but that it had not been separated for him according to his request, but included in the reserve E. I am of opinion that if we can secure the planting up of certain portions of these proposed reserves as native gardens, the object in view will not be less fully attained, for in respect of climatic influences (if not otherwise) a native garden is a jungle. I have marked on the plan not only the paddy fields reserves, so wisely insisted upon by the Governor, but also reserves above the native gardens, which I hope may be maintained for the purpose of providing for the extension of those gardens. I think it would be wicked to sell the forest right down to the garden boundaries in large blocks, thus cutting off from the villagers all chance of extending their gardens, which at present are but scanty. The object in view would not, however, be gained by cutting out for sale small blocks between the gardens and the large blocks, for these would inevitably be bought by the purchasers of the large blocks. I would therefore propose to give out portions of these belts intervening between the large blocks and the native gardens upon tickets of occupancy, ensuring permanent cultivation either by village committee rules, somewhat similar to those in force for chenas in the Gaṇgaboḍa pattu, or by conditions in the ticket of occupancy, with this proviso, that no felling or burning of the forest should be allowed, but that the underwood only should be cleared sufficiently to admit of the planting of cocoanut, arecanut, and jak. I would make the conditions sufficiently liberal to encourage permanent cultivations by the certainty of a little being obtainable by the cultivator upon his plantation attaining a degree of maturity, sufficient to secure it against the risk of being sold to his European neighbour to be again cleared and added to the estate.

May 1.—The sessions of the Supreme Court in Kalutara, which have not been held for the last twenty-five years or more, commenced with what appeared to me a most deplorable miscarriage of justice. An escaped prisoner, who fired four chambers of a revolver at the police who went to arrest him, was acquitted by an enlightened English-speaking jury of any intent to do bodily harm. The prisoner himself admitted that he fired twice; but his story that he did so with a view only of frightening his pursuers and not of hurting them, found favour with the court and also with the jury! The police, who, in my opinion, deserved the highest credit for their pluck in running into the man when he had still two chambers of the revolver loaded, received no praise from the court, but, on the contrary, some very depreciating remarks. I have spoken with the Inspector-General on the subject, and hope that he may bring the courageous behaviour of these men before the notice of Government.

May 7.—There are a large number of half duty-lands in this District, which, although described in the old register and old waṭṭóru as Crown property, have yet been held from father to son, and have in some cases been the subject of mortgage, and even sale. I do not myself think it at all desirable to interfere with this state of things, and consider the interests of the Crown sufficiently preserved by the recovery of the half share of produce; and I am not prepared to request the Commissioner to strike these lands out of the register as being "Crown lands," for I am certainly not prepared to ask Government to let me sell them to the highest bidder.

May 18.—In the afternoon meeting for the election of a village committee for Gaṇgaboḍa pattuwa. The people elected seventeen village representatives, and then the Mudaliyár proposed the President, who was duly elected. The President then proposed that Mr. Charles Knight, of Gikiyanakanda, be elected a member of the committee, and the Mudaliyár seconded the proposal, which was carried by acclamation. It was extremely gratifying to me to see this mark of the great confidence the people of this neighbourhood have in Mr. Knight; and I think the circumstance of a Sinhalese village community having voluntarily elected a European planter to take a part in their rural administration is probably unique.

August 13.—Received Provincial Engineer's estimate for the Kępu-ęla bridge, Rs. 18,000. He estimates for 100 ft. span, whilst the canal is, I believe, only 78 ft. broad, and I am not aware of the object of having a bridge much broader than the stream. That it should be higher to allow for floods I can understand. Mr. Vine's rates for iron pile bridges with wooden platform is Rs. 40 per foot; and it is one of these that we want here: 78 by 40 = Rs. 3,120.

The amount saved on the Alut-ela for Etanâmada-ela to Bolgoda was Rs. 2,750, and it was this amount that I hoped the Government would consent to apply to this work. The Superintendent of Minor Roads sends in an estimate for Rs. 2,700. The Bolgoda bridge, too, is estimated for 330 ft. span, whilst the distance between the two embankments is only 200 ft.

September 16.—Inspection of the Maguru-ganga. We have now got a vote of Rs. 850 for this work of clearing, and by the end of this year navigation between Kalutara and Badureliya will be unhindered. The Government Agent has, I learn, addressed Government in respect of the desirability of surveying for sale a large tract of forest land in the neighbourhood of Badureliya, and this, with the excellent climate for tea, with these new facilities for communication by water all the way to Colombo, ought to fetch a large price.

September 20.—To Múnamalwatta. The Múnamalwatta ferry toll should be collected on the other side of Welipenna, for all the plumbago traffic coming up the Pelawatta road escapes the toll by taking boat at Welipenna bridge. If the toll were moved to the bazaar, a pass would be given to clear the ferry. The District Road Committee get the toll grant, but it is not sufficient for the upkeep of the road, and it is rather mortifying to see all the heavy traffic, which has used about ten miles of the road, escape without paying a cent. Mr. Short recommended this change last year, and I supported his recommendation as Acting Government Agent. I do not know why it was not accepted by Government. In the afternoon went to inspect a block of forest land, 153 acres in extent, situated at Kotagedara, adjoining a block of 60 acres of tea opened by Mr. Davidson of Gikiyanakanda. The opening of these 60 acres has done so much for the people in the adjoining villages that the Mudaliyár strongly recommends the sale of this 153 acres; and I am of his opinion.

November 24.—I am told that, with a view to securing cheap beef in places where cattle are not habitually slaughtered, it is no uncommon practice to drive any stray animal which may be found in the vicinity of the line on to the railway, in the hope that it may be run over. The railway authorities sell the carcass for what it will fetch; and there is abundance in the village for the time being at any rate. Of course the owner is no party to the transaction; but his hands are tied, as he is liable to be prosecuted for suffering his animal to wander.

December 6.—Commenced work soon after 7 A.M. Long visit from Mr. Perman, who has come down in connection with the Bentota extension, and is anxious to ascertain probable traffic. As I had prepared some notes on the subject, was able to give him the benefit of them. The number of loaded carts (according to the toll-keeper at 29th milepost) which have passed both ways during the first ten months of this year, is as follows:—Double carts, 7,982; single carts, 787. The usual estimate is that a double cart carried one ton and a single cart six to ten cwt., when fully laden. The single carts probably ply between the Kalutara railway station and villages in the vicinity.

I much question if any appreciable portion of the goods now being transported by road by double carts would be diverted to the railway so long as the terminus continues at Bentota. The bulk of the traffic is from Galle and stations beyond, and the goods transported are coir fibre and yarn for the up journey and rice for the return. Carters will not, I think, be content to ply between Bentota and Galle (not at least at rates which would induce owners of goods to avail themselves of the railway), and goods will be carried past Bentota as they now are past Kalutara.

The few tea estates near Kosgoda and Ambalangoda, in the Southern Province, may send their produce to Bentota, taking back return loads of rice, because the distance would permit them to use the estate carts for the purpose, and no rival to the railway exists, as in the Kalutara District, in the shape of inland water communication. (But little of the Kalutara tea, or of the rice required for the coolies, is conveyed by rail. It is conveyed by river and land, and the Chetties who supply the estates with rice manage the transport.)

The railway may, however, count on a fair supply of plumbago from the Pasdun kóralé. At present it is sent by the Pelawatte-ganga and the Welipane-ganga to Bentota, whence it is despatched by cart to Colombo. The quantity thus transported during the first ten months of this year was 3,000 barrels, equal, at three barrels to the ton, to 1,000 tons.

At Payyágala, six miles from Kalutara, where probably a railway station will be placed, arrack is distilled in large quantities, and is sent to Moratuwa, where the wholesale dealers have their head quarters. If the rates be not too high, the whole of this traffic may be secured; but the general complaint is that the rates are too high, and carters are able successfully to compete with the railway.

A large traffic in fish may be expected from Béruwala, where during the north-east monsoon it is netted in large quantities. The larger descriptions are sent in pingoes up the road as far as Kalutara north and find a ready sale; but it does not pay to send the smaller kinds in this way, though doubtless they would be sent by rail. Strange to say but little fish, comparatively speaking, is caught in Kalutara, and we often are dependent on Béruwala for our supply. It sometimes is brought by rail from Pánaduré.

The greatest return, however, may be expected from the passenger traffic, especially third class. A large number of hackeries, carrying three passengers each, ply between Kalutara south and Bentota. Fifty-five licenses were issued during the current year. As the railway is extended southwards these will be transferred to the terminal station and act as feeders. The natives on the seaboard are, as a rule, well-to-do men, and they enjoy railway travelling. If the jurisdiction of the District Court of Kalutara be extended as proposed, suitors and renters will largely avail themselves of the railway.

CENTRAL PROVINCE.

REVENUE ADMINISTRATION REPORT OF THE HON. THE GOVERNMENT AGENT, CENTRAL PROVINCE, FOR 1887.

THE comparative statement of revenue for 1886 and 1887 is as follows :—

	1886. Rs.	1887. Rs.
Arrears of Revenue	28,951 ...	10,362
Land Sales	3,455 ...	8,701
Land Revenue	124,126 ...	119,985
Rents, exclusive of Lands	42,710 ...	42,202
Licenses	214,162 ...	221,346
Stamps	163,669 ...	112,837
Taxes	16,108 ...	16,318
Postal	2,509 ...	2,634
Fines and Forfeitures	10,388 ...	10,172
Sale of Government Property ...	5,742 ...	6,899
Reimbursements	36,394 ...	37,427
Interest	7,750 ...	3,782
Special Receipts	117 ...	261
Miscellaneous	10,058 ...	3,722
	666,139	596,648
Railway Receipts	989,194 ...	1,152,163
Total ...	1,655,333	1,748,811

There were fewer *Arrears* to be recovered, owing to the more punctual collection of the revenue during 1886.

Land Sales show a considerable increase, owing to the sale of some large blocks in the Mátalé and Nuwara Eliya Districts.

The decrease under the head of *Land Revenue* is due to diminished cultivation of uncommuted fields and to the exemptions on account of headmen having increased.

Rents, exclusive of Lands.—The falling off under this head is only apparent. In 1886 an instalment of certain Badulla toll rents was credited in this kachchéri. The toll rents for 1887 were sold for Rs. 41,720, as compared with Rs. 39,607 realised in 1886.

The very large falling off under the head of *Stamps* is, I believe, almost entirely due to the postmasters having under some departmental regulation procured their supplies from Colombo instead of from the provincial kachchéries.

The item *Miscellaneous* shows a large decrease. The amount, however, which was brought to revenue under this head in 1886 was exceptionally large, and mainly consisted of amounts credited to meet surcharges.

The following statement of revenue for each of the years 1883–87, exclusive of *Railway Receipts*, shows the continued decrease :—

	1883. Rs.	1884. Rs.	1885. Rs.	1886. Rs.	1887. Rs.
Kandy ...	762,451 ...	675,424 ...	627,472 ...	525,440 ...	487,814
Nuwara Eliya ...	89,870 ...	65,117 ...	93,373 ...	95,564 ...	62,786
Mátalé ...	65,755 ...	50,800 ...	47,642 ...	45,114 ...	46,048
Total ...	918,076	791,341	768,487	666,118	596,648

On the other hand, *Railway Receipts* have steadily risen year by year since 1883 :

	Rs.		Rs.
1883	921,047	1886	989,194
1884	937,857	1887	1,152,163
1885	965,618		

a cheering proof of the "turn of the tide."

The following is a comparative statement of expenditure for 1886 and 1887 :—

	1886. Rs.	1887. Rs.
Fixed Salaries	150,921	148,641
Provisional Salaries	70,065	77,406
Office Contingencies	6,273	5,655
Pensions	27,130	24,164
Revenue Services	31,404	27,450
Administration of Justice... ...	35,494	22,919
Hospitals and Sanitation	2,884	3,022
Charitable Allowances	3,630	3,695
Prison Services	57,696	44,396
Rent	—	720
Transport...	8,605	9,217
Miscellaneous Services	10,067	9,554
Lands taken for Public Purposes ...	3,102	485
Forest Services	—	461
Immigration	2,178	1,903
Total ...	409,449	379,688

The following is a comparative statement of *Arrears* outstanding on December 31, 1887, as compared with those at the close of the previous year :—

	Kandy.	Nuwara Eliya.	Mátalé.	Total.
On December 31, 1886.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Paddy Commutation	—	1,058	—	1,058
Percentage to one year's revenue ...	—	3	—	1
Taxes	1,036	294	348	1,678
Percentage to one year's revenue ...	15	3	11	8
Road Ordinance Collections :—				
Value of labour whether commuted or not	1,009	—	57	1,066
Percentage to one year's revenue ...	2	—	—	1
Planters' contribution to grant-in-aid roads	1,678	—	—	1,678
Percentage to one year's revenue ...	5	—	—	5
Municipal Taxes :—				
Police assessment	6,448	—	—	6,448
Percentage to one year's revenue ...	35	—	—	35
Water-rate	3,737	—	—	3,737
Percentage to one year's revenue ...	19	—	—	19
Local Board Taxes :—				
Local rate paid by assessment and commutation tax for roads ...	531	150	—	681
Percentage to one year's revenue ...	12	5	—	10
On December 13, 1887.				
Paddy Commutation	—	538	—	538
Percentage to one year's revenue ...	—	2	—	2
Taxes	854	130	404	1,388
Percentage to one year's revenue ...	12	1	12	8
Road Ordinance Collections :—				
Value of labour whether commuted or not	627	—	22	649
Percentage to one year's revenue ...	1	—	·10	1·10
Planters' contribution to grant-in-aid roads	122	—	—	122
Percentage to one year's revenue ...	·71	—	—	·71
Municipal Taxes :—				
Police assessment	5,578	—	—	5,578
Percentage to one year's revenue ...	31	—	—	31
Water-rate	3,609	—	—	3,609
Percentage to one year's revenue ...	18	—	—	18
Local Board Taxes :—				
Local rate paid by assessment and commutation tax for roads ...	418	67	—	485
Percentage to one year's revenue ...	11	2	—	—

The usual progress returns follow :—

Paddy Commutation, 1886.

	Kandy. Rs.	Nuwara Eliya. Rs.	Mátalé. Rs.	Total. Rs.
One year's revenue, exclusive of exemption, 1886	57,484	29,721	23,523	110,728
Arrears outstanding on December 31, 1885	972	1,656	316	2,944
Percentage of arrears to one year's revenue ...	1	5	1	2
Collection in 1886	58,456	30,319	23,839	112,614
Percentage of collection to one year's revenue ...	101	102	101	101
Arrears outstanding on December 31, 1886	—	1,058	—	1,058
Percentage of arrears to one year's revenue ...	—	3	—	1

Paddy Commutation, 1887.

	Kandy.	Nuwara Eliya.	Mátalé.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
One year's revenue, exclusive of exemption, 1887 ...	57,019	29,644	23,549	110,212
Arrears outstanding on December 31, 1886	—	1,058	—	1,058
Percentage of arrears to one year's revenue ...	—	3	—	3
Collection in 1887... ...	57,019	30,164	23,549	110,732
Percentage of collection to one year's revenue ...	100	102	100	100
Arrears outstanding on December 31, 1887	—	538	—	538
Percentage of arrears to one year's revenue ...	—	2	—	2

Police Assessment, 1886.

One year's assessment tax, 1886 ...	6,714	7,980	3,092	17,786
Arrears outstanding on December 31, 1885	988	317	245	1,550
Percentage of arrears to one year's assessment ...	14	4	7	9
Collection in 1886... ...	6,666	7,686	2,989	17,341
Percentage of collections to one year's assessment ...	99	96	96	97
Arrears outstanding on December 31, 1886	1,036	294	348	1,678
Percentage of arrears to one year's assessment ...	15	3	11	8

Police Assessment, 1887.

One year's assessment tax, 1887 ...	6,588	7,975	3,132	17,695
Arrears outstanding on December 31, 1886	1,036	253	347	1,636
Percentage of arrears to one year's assessment ...	14	3	11	9
Collection in 1887 ...	6,703	8,098	3,076	17,877
Percentage of collections to one year's assessment ...	101	101	98	101
Arrears outstanding on December 31, 1887	854*	130	404	1,388
Percentage of arrears to one year's assessment ...	12	1	12	8

Grant-in-Aid Roads.

	1885.	1886.	1887.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Amount due	19,008	33,639	21,292
Collected	19,008	31,961	21,170
Arrears of 1884 collected ...	36	—	—
Arrears of 1885 collected ...	—	—	—
Arrears of 1886 collected ...	—	—	1,678

The following statements show recoveries under the Road Ordinance, No. 31 of 1884, for 1886 and 1887:—

1886.	Kandy.	Nuwara Eliya.	Mátalé.	Total.
Number of men	33,053	10,187	14,474	57,714
Number paid and worked	27,806	8,759	12,475	49,040
Number exempted, including absentees, &c. ...	4,574	1,428	1,961	7,963
Balance	673	—	38	711
Percentage of arrears on amount due ...	2	—	—	1·23
Value of labour outstanding on Dec. 31, 1886 ...	Rs. 1,009	—	Rs. 57	Rs. 1,066
1887.				
Number of men	32,853	11,736	14,686	59,275
Number paid and worked	27,763	9,428	12,748	49,939
Number exempted, including absentees, &c. ...	4,672	2,308	1,923	8,903
Balance	418	—	15	433
Percentage of arrears on amount due ...	1	—	·10	·73
Value of labour outstanding on Dec. 31, 1887 ...	Rs. 627	—	Rs. 22	Rs. 649

Receipts of each District from Road Ordinance Collections in Labour and Money during 1886, as compared with 1885.

District.	Recovered in Money on account of 1886.	Arrears of former years recovered in Money.	Value of Labour furnished.	Total for 1886.	Total for 1885.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Kandy	39,335	1,525	8,219	49,079	48,784
Nuwara Eliya ...	12,577	886	2,285	15,748	12,866
Mátalé	16,698	42	2,700	19,440	19,984
Total ...	68,610	2,453	13,204	84,267	81,634

* Finally closed on April 6, 1888.

Receipts of each District from Road Ordinance Collections in Labour and Money during 1887, as compared with 1886.

District.	Recovered in Money on account of 1887.	Arrears of former years recovered in Money.	Value of Labour furnished.	Total for 1887.	Total for 1886.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Kandy ...	43,707	1,010	2,792	47,509	49,079
Nuwara Eliya ...	14,474	290	920	15,684	15,748
Mátalé ...	18,472	73	1,180	19,725	19,440
Total ...	76,653	1,373	4,892	82,918	84,267

Land Sales during 1886 and 1887.

District.	1886.			1887.		
	No. of Lots.	Extent.	Amount.	No. of Lots.	Extent.	Amount.
		A. R. P.	Rs. c.		A. R. P.	Rs. c.
Kandy	43	204 0 8·75	2,361 88	27	223 2 16	2,498 62
Nuwara Eliya	12	13 1 16	138 47	9	221 2 2	2,247 50
Mátalé	10	22 3 26	251 50	51	333 3 5·75	3,471 31
Total ...	65	240 1 10·75	2,751 85	87	778 3 23·75	8,217 43
Average per acre ...	—	—	11 46	—	—	10 66

Claims inquired into and disposed of during 1886 and 1878.

1886.	Kandy.	Nuwara Eliya.	Mátalé.	Total.
Number of lots at Rs. 10 per acre, &c. ...	1	10	—	11
Number of lots at half-improved value ...	6	—	—	6
Number of lots on certificate of quiet possession	108	3	28	139
Number of lots for sale, &c. ...	2	—	3	5
Total ...	117	13	31	161
1887.				
Number of lots at Rs. 10 per acre, &c. ...	2	—	1	3
Number of lots at half-improved value ...	6	—	1	7
Number of lots on certificate of quiet possession	24	2	10	36
Number of lots for sale, &c. ...	6	—	9	15
Total ...	38	2	21	61

Recovery of Survey Fees on Certificates of Quiet Possession issued during 1886 and 1887.

District.	1886.			1887.		
	No. of Lots.	Extent.	Amount of Survey Fees.	No. of Lots.	Extent.	Amount of Survey Fees.
		A. R. P.	Rs. c.		A. R. P.	Rs. c.
Kandy	136	167 0 36·50	574 0	36	41 0 6·75	152 0
Nuwara Eliya	3	1 2 22·62	10 0	1	2 0 26	7 50
Mátalé	18	23 1 19	82 50	17	95 2 23 75	238 0
Total ...	157	192 0 38·12	666 50	54	138 3 16·50	397 50

Statement of Lands purchased by Europeans and Natives in 1887.

	No. of Lots.	Extent.	Amount.
		A. R. P.	Rs. c.
Europeans ...	38	443 1 29	4,722 6
Natives ...	49	335 1 34·75	3,495 37
Total ...	87	778 3 23·75	8,217 43

Return of Lands sold during 1887, including those disposed of under clauses 7 and 8 of the Ordinance No. 12 of 1840 and the Minute of May 14, 1875.

How disposed of.	No. of Lots.	Extent.	Amount.
		A. R. P.	Rs. c.
By sale	65	716 2 6	7553 81
By half-improved value ...	22	62 1 17·75	663 62
By certificate of quiet possession...	54	138 3 16·50	—
Total ...	141	917 3 0·25	8,217 43

Statement of Stamps sold at the several Kachchéries during 1886 and 1887.

	1886. Rs.	c.	1887. Rs.	c.
Kandy.				
General	30,589	80	31,188	25
Foreign Bill	387	0	225	0
Judicial	45,410	50	38,001	67
Telegraph	5,894	37	5,704	90
Postage	33,888	90	23,273	63
Total	116,170	57	98,393	45
Nuwara Eliya.				
General	3,346	15	3,321	0
Foreign Bill	—		—	
Judicial	1,931	35	1,000	0
Telegraph	9,358	2	10,019	20
Postage	43,172	21	7,484	15
Total	57,807	73	21,824	35
Mátalé.				
General	3,319	96	3,933	10
Foreign Bill	—		—	
Judicial	2,753	62	2,796	0
Telegraph	1,342	68	1,200	20
Postage	4,355	35	2,412	75
Total	11,771	61	10,342	5
Total for the Province	185,749	91	130,513	85

ARRACK.

The arrack farm of the Province as now constituted, comprising the Districts of Kandy, Mátalé, and Nuwara Eliya, for the year from July 1, 1887, to June 30, 1888, realised a sum of Rs. 276,050 against Rs. 215,650 in the previous year, so that the arrack revenue of 1887 was Rs. 245,850 and that of 1886 was Rs. 220,375.

TOLLS.

The toll rents for the year 1887 realised Rs. 41,720 against Rs. 39,607 in 1886, an increase of Rs. 2,113. A comparative statement shows for—

	Rs.		Rs.
1881	93,410	1885	41,871
1882	86,465	1886	39,607
1883	61,120	1887	41,720
1884	62,021		

so that both farms, like Railway Receipts, point to a return of prosperity.

MUNICIPALITY AND LOCAL BOARDS.

The annexed statement shows the recoveries of police assessment and water-rate in Kandy by the Municipal Council during the year 1887 :—

	Police Assessment. Rs.	c.	Water Rate. Rs.	c.
Total of one year's tax (1887) as estimated	17,962	45	19,562	0
Arrears on December 31, 1886	6,448	76	3,737	57
Percentage of arrears on one year's tax	35·9		19·10	
Arrears collected in 1887	4,954	6	1,833	59
Amount collected on account of 1887	13,878	16	17,856	34
Total collections in 1887	18,832	22	19,689	93
Arrears at end of 1887	5,578	99	3,609	64
Percentage of arrears on one year's tax	31·06		18 45	

The following statement shows the revenue and expenditure of each institution in 1886 and 1887 :—

	1886. Revenue. Rs.	1886. Expenditure. Rs.	1887. Revenue. Rs.	1887. Expenditure. Rs.
Kandy—				
General Account	46,695	43,891	42,932	43,848
Police	22,396	25,292	19,060	16,045
Water	22,973	21,994	23,361	29,211
Gampola	4,604	4,540	3,675	3,381
Nuwara Eliya	7,093	7,476	7,218	6,435
Total	103,761	103,193	96,246	98,920

To show the true revenue and expenditure of the Province it is necessary to include the accounts of the various local authorities. The accounts stand thus :—

	1886. Revenue. Rs.	1886. Expenditure. Rs.	1887. Revenue. Rs.	1887. Expenditure. Rs.
Government Accounts	1,655,333	409,449	1,748,811	379,688
Municipality and Local Boards	103,761	103,193	96,246	98,920
Road Committees	123,446	87,806	122,670	91.264
Gansabháwas & Irrigation Councils	6,378	5,408	7,631	7,312
Total	1,888,918	605,856	1,975,358	577,184

AREA AND DIVISIONS OF THE PROVINCE.

The Province, the area of which is reported to be 2,322 square miles, is divided into the Districts of Kandy, Mátalé, and Nuwara Eliya.

Kandy contains, besides the town within the Municipal limits, nine divisions, which again are subdivided into thirty-five kóralés.

Mátalé comprises three divisions—south, east, and north—which are subdivided into seventeen kóralés.

Nuwara Eliya comprises the three divisions of Kotmalé, Uḍa Héwáhęta, and Walapáné, which are subdivided into twelve kóralés.

POPULATION.

The population on December 31, 1887, may be estimated thus :—

Population as estimated on January 1, 1887	475,220
Add births during 1887	13,796
	489,016
Deduct deaths during 1887	10,446
Total at close of the year ...	478,570

FOOD SUPPLY.

The estimate set down in my last annual report of 1,254,029 bushels of rice carried by rail, added to 1,425,000 rice grown in it, gives a total of 2,679,029 bushels, or about 5·6 bushels a head for the year, which would be largely supplemented with kurakkan, Indian corn, and fine grain grown in the lower divisions, besides vegetables, yams, &c.

TEA AND NEW PRODUCTS.

The substitution of tea gardens for coffee plantations has continued at an increased rate throughout the year. Bazaars again line the roads in every direction, and employment is being given to large numbers of contractors and artisans from the low-country. The yield of tea has been most encouraging. Cacao in Mátalé and Dumbara, cardamoms in Raṇgala and Meḍamahánuwara, and even old coffee in Bogawantaláwa and Upper Dikoya, at the high prices which ruled during the year, restored somewhat of the old brightness of planting life in the Province.

An interesting attempt was started in the close of the year by a German planter from Sumatra—Mr. Meyer—to introduce tobacco cultivation on a large scale. At my suggestion he visited in succession Dumbara, where he succeeded, I believe, in inducing a planter of great local experience (Mr. Ingleton) to join him in his speculation, and then Mátalé, where he hopes to find a suitable block of land, and then the Seven Kóralés. Tobacco has been for years grown successfully on Rájawęla in Dumbara, and I doubt not Mr. Ingleton was able to show him fine specimens of Ceylon-grown tobacco. He has not yet found any large block in Mátalé sufficient for his purposes, though Mr. Burrows is doing all he can to further his wishes.

A visiting agent familiar with all parts of the Province, and a man of large experience and sagacity, writes :—

Coffee.—Planters were stimulated by the high prices and good blossoms of last year to hope that good times had come again for this old favourite. Unfortunately, green bug extended its ravages and appeared in districts which had previously escaped. Leaf-disease also put in an appearance in autumn, and the severe drought in low-lying districts seriously affected the yield. Crop has thus not come up to expectations. Bogawantaláwa and Upper Dikoya are the only districts that yielded fair crops. The high prices ruling up to autumn of 1887 have been succeeded by much lower quotations, owing to the very large crops expected in Brazil in 1888, and which will soon be coming into the market. Planters are now discouraged in spending money on the cultivation of coffee, which no doubt means the ultimate abandonment of this staple.

Cacao has also had a bad enemy to contend with in the drought that has more or less prevailed since June of 1887. The very wet December has saved its vitality in the terribly dry months of January, February, and March, but the want of genial showers in these months prevented our getting spring or early autumn crops. Blossoms are now showing up and setting, so that estates in favourable localities and under good cultivation will do well with late autumn crops. The high prices now ruling will encourage high cultivation necessary to all tropical products.

Tea.—The work of extension goes on merrily. One hears of no very wonderful returns in the way of crops, except in such favoured estates as Mariawatta. It is the extended area coming into bearing that is increasing the exports and the stocks of Ceylon tea. So long as we can secure 10*d.* gross, and present rates of exchange are not higher than 1*s.* 6*d.*, we can get on very well with a 300 lb. average yield per acre. On ordinary soil, planted with fair ját plants at five years old, I think we may expect this average from estates at the elevation of Kandy up to 4,000 ft. There is, however, a deal of old exhausted coffee land on steep hillsides that will not yield this average; so at 10*d.* it would cease to be profitable.

Tobacco has attracted the attention of Sumatra planters. We have now amongst us those who are anxious to buy any amount of land if they can only get it. The disadvantage local growers have had to contend with to date has been want of knowledge in the preparation of the *wrapper-leaf*, for which the high price is given in the Amsterdam and Sweden markets. Skilled planters from Sumatra will help us over that difficulty. I hear also that these gentlemen intend supplying the natives with good seed, and will take the leaf off their hand at fair prices, which they will prepare in their central factories. If this arrangement is properly carried out, native holders of land will have a profitable source of income.

The North-Western Province is at present the favourite ; there is so little Government land in the Central Province fitted for this cultivation, which requires south-west rains. However, there are tracts of land in native or European hands which will give handsome profits under this product in the Central Province.

Rubber, coca, and *vanilla* are receiving attention in a small way, but the growth of these industries is slow.

From Bogawantaláwa a planter writes :—

Cultivation has been principally directed towards planting tea in place of coffee wherever the latter has failed to pay its way, and now a very considerable acreage under tea is the result. Amongst the planters in this district are some who are still staunch supporters of coffee : these only reluctantly yield to the tea mania when literally compelled to do so, and amongst their plantations are still to be seen many flourishing acres of vigorous

coffee, the crop secured from which during season 1877–88 has proved considerably the largest that has been gathered for many years. Tea has proved an unqualified success, both as regards yield and flavour, which is much appreciated in the London market. Cinchona cultivation may practically be considered as a thing of the past, *i. e.*, the least possible amount of expenditure is devoted to it now-a-days, and there is but comparatively little to harvest throughout the district. Money spent upon it can scarcely be looked upon as "cultivation," for it is simply "harvesting" the bark, and but very few rupees are expended in "planting" or "nurseries."

Prospects for the coming season are by no means bright so far as coffee is concerned, a very severe attack of leaf-disease being, I consider, the cause. This attack coming much earlier in the season than usual, cannot possibly leave time for those bushes which have so recently borne a magnificent crop to recover and regain their vigour before the blossoming season. Only the very few estates which did not do unusually well this season can be expected to do fairly well next season.

Prospects of tea are very good, and the season finds everyone increasing their factory room and erecting additional machinery, so as to be able to keep pace with the expected increase of yield from off the older bushes, as well as to be in readiness for that from the younger fields which are now commencing to give a return.

A few of the largest plantations, towards the lower end of the district (Bogawantaláwa), have about half their cultivated acreage in coffee and half in tea, the latter gradually taking the place of the former. The nearer you approach the eastern or upper end of the district, the less coffee you see, and in some instances it has quite given way to its rival.

A planter of Raṇgala writes :—

The area under tea cultivation has during the past year been greatly increased, and almost every estate which formerly used to be under coffee is now planted up with tea. This plant thrives and yields most satisfactorily on all the high ranges of this district, but below an altitude of 3,000 ft., for some unaccountable reason, it falls off and is slow in growth as well as poor in quality and yield.

Several new factories have been erected and the older ones added to and improved, whilst all have been fitted up with the latest improvements in the way of machinery for manufacturing the leaf. The district teas maintain their high reputation for flavour and strength in the London and local markets.

I estimate the land at present planted with tea in the Raṇgala district at 3,500 acres, and the cultivation is being steadily extended both in supersession of other products as well as in fresh land, which is a matter for congratulation, as it is mainly to tea that the district must look for future prosperity.

Cinchona has almost disappeared from the scene, and another year or two will see it completely extinguished.

Cardamoms continue to thrive and yield handsomely, and the Mysore variety is being extensively planted on most estates; but the serious drop in price for cardamoms has caused great disappointment and loss to many.

The weather for the past year has been most fickle and trying to agricultural pursuits as well as for general health. Whilst the last quarter of 1887 was very wet and stormy, the first three months of 1888 have been unprecedentedly dry, only one shower having fallen during the ninety days. The drought has checked the tea flush and seriously weakened the bushes at the most critical time when they required support. Dysentery, fever, and chicken-pox have been very prevalent amongst the natives, and in many instances Europeans have also suffered in health, undoubtedly from the abnormal weather.

Labour so far has been abundant, and the Siṇhalese from the neighbouring villages work readily on the tea gardens as contractors and daily labourers.

A planter from Meḍamahánuwara writes :—

The year has been a favourable one for agriculture generally : rainfall above the average, and well distributed over the twelve months.

Cardamoms continue to be the staple and future hope of the district, and there is a steadily increasing area under this cultivation. Crop has been a good average one, and if prices hold a large acreage will be planted up during the next and following years. The Malabar species of this plant is fast dying out, giving place to the Mysore variety, which is hardier and seems to yield better returns. I believe at date there is a larger area under cardamoms in this district than in any other in the Island.

Tea.—Acreage under this also makes steady progress, and there are now three to four-year old clearings on most estates, and further extensions are going on. Planting has been chiefly on old coffee land, and where the soil is good and the plants had a little time to come on the growth is all that can be desired. Judging from figures that are given me of the yield of leaf per acre on bearing estates, the tea enterprise in Meḍamahánuwara is a very decided success.

Labour has been fairly plentiful, and the district healthy during the year. Siṇhalese villagers are being more extensively employed on estates, and they seem anxious and willing to do a day's work when required. A considerable sum of money—certainly several thousand rupees—has found its way among them during the year, resulting in a very decided improvement to the physical appearance of the villager one meets. Paddy crops suffered somewhat from heavy rains in December, but, on the whole, the year has been a good one to the goyyá, and he is now adding cardamom cultivation to his other products.

A planter of large property writes from Dimbula :—

I believe that we have, on the whole, exceeded our estimates, notwithstanding the drought which on high lands has done no harm, and on my estate, five miles from Nuwara Eliya, we plucked more tea during the drought than at any other season of the year, and now after a few showers it is overtaking us in quantity. I am sure that I am under the mark in putting down tea planted in this district, as two-thirds of the coffee is still kept up for "slaughter" next year. Four years ago I had 460 acres of coffee on this estate. I have now 605 acres of tea, and such is the case with many. I have no coffee except some kept to be firewood. My ideas as to prospects are that we have hit on the best thing last, both as regards safety and moderation in returns for capital and labour and an absence of excitement. We shall always have a rival in India, but the competition will be for the benefit of both countries, and the greatly improved morality of all in charge of estates is not the least valuable safeguard of our future.

PADDY CULTIVATION.

The Grain Tax Ordinance has not hitherto been in force in this Province, our commutations for terms of years having been hitherto voluntary by agreement between the landowners and the Crown. The last term of ten years expired with the year 1887, and Mr. George Templer was at work as Grain Commissioner under Ordinance No. 11 of 1878 from January, 1887, in Kandy proper, and Mr. M. S. Crawford from November in Mátalé, both of which Districts were brought under the Grain Tax Ordinance as from January 1, 1888, as also the Uḍa Héwáheṭa division of Nuwara Eliya. Kandy District is the only one as yet fully commuted, and I have much pleasure in bearing testimony to the care, accuracy, and consideration for the interests of the people with which Mr. Commissioner Templer discharged his duties. The following is a statement comparing the results of the last and the new commutation :—

Division.	Kóralé.	Last Ten years' Commutation. Commuted.	New Commutation. Annual Commutation.	Decrease.	Increase.	Percentage of Decrease on last ten years' Commutation.	New Commutation. Crop Commutation.
		Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.		Rs. c.
Uḍunuwara ...	Gaṇgapaláta ...	1,185 31	1,231 5	—	45 74	—	54 50
	Mędapaláta ...	1,498 79	1,323 70	175 9	—	11	39 11
	Kandupaláta ...	578 41	558 98	19 43	—	3	22 66
Yaṭinuwara ...	Gaṇgawata ...	623 26	688 43	—	65 17	—	21 68
	Gaṇgapaláta ...	1,134 89	1,040 62	94 27	—	8	42 50
	Mędapaláta ...	1,662 21	1,503 1	159 20	—	9	23 10
	Kandupaláta ...	1,415 59	1,388 87	26 72	—	1	54 71
Tumpané ...	Pallépaláta ...	1,993 67	2,374 83	—	381 16	—	205 18
	Uḍapaláta ...	1,781 40	1,899 50	—	118 10	—	91 93
	Ganatapaláta ...	1,440 16	1,469 35	—	29 19	—	128 58
Háriṣpattu ...	Mędasiyapattu ...	1,648 1	1,617 71	30 30	—	1	34 58
	Uḍagampaha ...	845 48	740 47	105 1	—	12	61 96
	Pallégampaha ...	1,136 2	1,202 52	—	60 50	—	60 14
	Kulugammanasiyapattu	1,866 52	1,725 73	140 79	—	7	81 58
	Galasiyapattu ...	997 74	1,001 72	—	3 98	—	27 24
Lower Dumbara ...	Uḍagampaha ...	3,464 61	3,159 91	304 70	—	8	72 87
	Pallégampaha ...	3,363 64	3,105 30	258 34	—	7	117 1
	Pallispattu east ...	2,354 45	2,128 48	225 97	—	9	124 58
	Do. west ...	1,655 91	1,500 48	155 43	—	9	130 68
	Węndaruwa ...	612 79	510 55	102 24	—	16	34 86
Upper Dumbara ...	Mędasiyapattu ...	2,560 21	2,207 82	352 39	—	13	123 36
	Uḍasiyapattu north ...	2,560 90	2,284 22	276 68	—	10	82 46
	Do. south ...	1,493 50	1,315 9	178 41	—	11	81 62
	Gandeka ...	3,562 57	2,628 6	934 51	—	26	450 10
	Kandapahala ...	1,074 26	716 93	357 33	—	33	316 86
	Gampaha east ...	1,830 19	1,358 1	472 18	—	25	333 87
	Do. west ...	2,780 85	2,183 19	597 66	—	21	394 69
Lower Héwáhęṭa ...	Gandahaya ...	2,964 66	2,807 72	156 94	—	5	23 93
	Héwáwissa ...	2,211 6	2,042 89	168 17	—	7	65 59
Uḍapaláta ...	Gaṇgapahala ...	1,509 49	1,365 20	144 29	—	9	39 73
	Gaṇgaihala ...	4,337 61	3,903 80	433 81	—	10	190 18
	Kandukaraihala ...	2,787 47	2,532 60	254 87	—	9	222 60
	Kandukarapahala ...	1,917 84	1,807 73	110 11	—	5	56 76
Uḍa Bulatgama ...	Ambagamuwa ...	473 68	456 72	16 96	—	3	66 96
	Pasbáge ...	1,343 85	1,131 97	211 88	—	15	140 17
	Total ...	64,667 0	58,913 16	6,463 68	709 84	—	3,998 33
		Deduct increase ...		709 84			
		Net decrease ...		5,753 84	= 8·89 per cent on Rs. 64,677.		

It shows a total yearly annual commutation of Rs. 58,913 against the previous one of Rs. 64,667, which, examined in detail, gives a net decrease of Rs. 5,753·84, or about 8·89 per cent. on the amount (annual) of last commutation and a total for crop-commutation of Rs. 3,998·33. Every examination I have made in appeal cases goes to prove the extreme accuracy of the new assessment and the care taken in doubtful cases to redress grievances and ease the burden where possible.

The reductions in the annual commutation vary of course considerably in the several divisions, the average being 6 per cent. in Lower Héwáhęṭa, 6·6 per cent. in Uḍapaláta, 9 per cent. in Uḍa Bulatgama, 9·8 per cent. in Páta Dumbara, and rising to 19·85 per cent. in Uḍa Dumbara; and so in kóralés, the rate of decrease varies from 3 to 10 per cent. in Uḍapaláta, from 8 to 16 per cent. in Páta Dumbara, from 10 to 33 per cent. in the kóralés of Uḍa Dumbara.

This practical relief in all cases of over-assessment given by the Commissioner forms the best answer to the criticisms of my Nuwara Eliya Assistant on the working of the Grain Tax Ordinance and the steps taken of late years to compel payment of tithe on all lands within the year. With all Mr. Le Mesurier's sympathy for the landowners, he was able himself to make the 1887 collection without the sale of a single land,—a fact which goes far to prove what I have ever held, that the hardships endured by the defaulters of late years in that District were mainly, if not entirely, due to the loose system which prevailed and allowed arrears to accumulate until the tax of two years and even more became due.

It would be, I contend, premature to adopt Mr. Le Mesurier's proposals and to reverse the policy of recent legislation by relieving the land of the liability and throwing it as of old on the produce only. The practical working of the existing system—commutation carefully adjusted in a judicial procedure by a responsible officer of high rank, tithe to be paid in the year, land liable to sale but to be always bought in by the Crown unless its fair value be bid at the sale in default, with the additional safeguard of the old owner being allowed to redeem if he can within a reasonable time—will, I have every reason to hope, be found to be alike equitable, safe, and satisfactory for the parties concerned. It is to be remembered that sales are often desired by the landowners where there are numerous partners in the holding, the majority of whom want to get rid of obstructive or dishonest shareholders. This I found to be the cause of many sales in the Southern Province. Here, at all events, I contend we should not allow any theories or *à priori* arguments to prevail until we have had some actual experience of the working of the Ordinance now being for the first time introduced.

I may add here (although not concerned with the year under review) that the results of Mr. Commissioner Templer's work in the division of Uḍa Héwáhęṭa of the Nuwara Eliya District—the only one in which the Grain Tax Ordinance has been introduced—show even larger reductions

than Kandy proper, the total being (annual commutation) Rs. 10,300, against total of last term of Rs. 13,493, a reduction of 23·65 per cent., which in the kóralés varies from 21 per cent., in Pallégampaha to 31·27 per cent., in Gaṇgapaláta,—a result at which Mr. Le Mesurier was agreeably surprised. The annexed statement shows this:—

Nuwara Eliya.

Division.	Kóralé.	Last Ten years' Commutation. Commuted.	New Commutation. Annual Commutation.	Decrease.	Increase.	Percentage of Decrease on last ten years' Commutation.	New Commutation. Crop Commutation.
		Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.		Rs. c.
Uḍa Héwáheṭa ...	Diyatilaka	1,747 24	1,316 32	430 92	—	24·61	26 46
	Gaṇgapaláta ...	1,346 56	925 33	421 23	—	31·27	156 32
	Uḍagampaha ...	2,293 17	1,864 12	429 5	—	18·70	123 26
	Gannęwé	2,573 46	1,907 12	666 34	—	25·88	153 85
	Pallégampaha ...	2,455 6	1,915 70	539 36	—	21·95	37 47
	Kohoka	3,078 37	2,372 33	706 4	—	22·93	42 70
	Total ...	13,493 86	10,300 92	3,192 94	—	23·65	540 6

I would only further say, in reply to Mr. Le Mesurier, that the chief argument in favour of the tax is, not that it has long existed or is thoroughly understood by the people,—though these are important considerations in dealing with a political question,—but that it is the only tax which will reach the village population at all; and taxation being an evil, though a necessary one, we must choose that form of taxation which, with least pressure and difficulty, will affect the largest number and secure the largest return; and our land revenue has averaged, it must be remembered, for years past one-tenth of our annual budgets.

I am free to admit that in Walapané, a remote and roadless division, where means of irrigation are wanting and crops precarious, the rate (Re. 1 a bushel) hitherto charged was too high, and a considerable reduction is needed, but Uḍa Héwáheṭa has been admittedly dealt with in a kindly and equitable spirit, and Kotmalé division—fertile, prosperous, and healthy—requires no large reduction, but should be dealt with in the same spirit as Uḍapálata and Lower Héwáheṭa of Kandy.

Legislation Suggested.

The prevention of waste by life-tenants of temple property by empowering the Attorney-General to sue on the application of the Government Agent for a writ of waste, or to call on the tenant for an account, is a measure urgently called for, as stated in my report for 1886.

The Labourers' Wages Ordinance, No. 16 of 1884, should be amended (1) by giving coolies a first charge on the estate for all wages due them, and not merely for so many months, and (2) by empowering the Attorney-General to sue generally for such wages (without specifying names of coolies or amount due each), and to compel the owner or manager to produce his accounts and to disclose what amount of wages are due at any date. I would further repeal sections 8 and 9, which require superintendents to send declarations to Government Agents as to date up to which coolies have been paid.

I would repeal Ordinance No. 17 of 1862, under which planters have to send in quarterly returns to kachchéries of mortality. Now that coolies are well looked after these returns are unnecessary; the ordinary reports of deaths would suffice.

Butchers should be annually licensed everywhere, and not merely as now within police limits or a radius of three miles from a police court.

Game should be protected throughout the Island by imposing an annual license for carrying firearms as distinguished from possessing or having arms for protection of one's house and property, and by imposing a substantial export duty on hides and horns of deer and elk.

Irrigation and Paddy Cultivation Ordinances and Gaṇsabháwa rules should be amended and consolidated.

Works wanted in the Province.

Such works may be classed under (1) Improved Lines of Communication and (2) Irrigation.

Under the former of course stands, first, Railway Extension to Uva, now happily sanctioned by the Secretary of State, which will not only relieve that long-suffering Province, but will prove of incalculable benefit to this Province, leading, as it assuredly will, to the opening out of cultivation along the line in what are now the pathless forests between Nuwara Eliya and Haputalé, and to the settlement of population in bazaars and townships along the line in the finest and healthiest hill-country of Ceylon. Already a fine resthouse is being built near Pattipola at the boundary between the two Provinces above Wilson's Bungalow.

Of roads, the most important in the interest of the natives are (1) the Galewela road in Mátalé and (2) the Bintęnna road beyond Urugala in Dumbara, to each of which a small vote (Rs. 2,500) has been allowed this year, to be followed, I trust, by substantial votes annually in future until both those important lines of road are completed. The Bintęnna road, now being extended from Nugatęnna in the direction of Wéragantoṭa on the Mahawęli-gaṇga, will be very useful for the transport of *materiel* when the restoration of the great Minipé-ęla is undertaken by Government. The third road is the Lower Badulla road, the oldest and most direct *route* between Kandy and Badulla, which must be made at least passable for horses and tavalams by the bridging of the Umá-oya and other streams. It is a standing disgrace to our administration that this road, along which Major Rogers forty years ago used to ride to and from Kandy once a month, should be now impassable in wet weather.

Schemes are being now considered under the Branch Roads Grant-in-Aid Ordinance by the Provincial Road Committee for the extension of the Wanarájah road in Dikoya and for the construction of a road from Norwood Bridge to Upcot, and an estimate has been sanctioned for the extension of the Bogawantaláwa road to Campion Hill (Rs. 57,914). The outlet for Matęrata still "hangs fire."

PLANS FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE PROVINCE.

I think I would set down as first the great Dewahuwęwa scheme in Kandapola kóralé of Mátalé north, including not only the execution of the work of restoration, but the work of colonization or settlement of villagers from the vicinity, on easy terms, to asweddumise and bring under the plough the forest, from which all the valuable timber should be first cut out by the Forest Department. The scheme is being developed, and with the location of the Aḍigár in Mátalé north, whose influence is great, I am very sanguine of seeing this large scheme successfully started.

Next, for immediate completion, will stand the Belihul-oya scheme in Nuwara Eliya District, including the Waduwáwela-ęla on one side and the Belihul-oya-ęla on the other. Here I hope to see settled a considerable number of agriculturists who, having lost their paddy fields by sale for arrears of tithe in the bad years, might be allowed on easy, I would say nominal, terms to become the owners of such allotments as, having been assigned them by Government, might be converted by them into paddy lands within a reasonable time on the system known as "Asweddum Licenses." Mr. Le Mesurier will, I feel sure, work out his scheme successfully.

But, of all works pressing for execution, surely the great Minipé-ęla scheme is the grandest and most important. This greatest of the irrigation works of the Siṅhalese started from the Mahawęli-gaṅga on this side, a little to the east of its junction with the Uma-oya, where the river turns sharply from an easterly direction to the north. The ęla flowed parallel to the river at a distance of from three to five miles from the mountain range, as set out in Mr. Dickson's report for 1883, to the description in which, taken from Messrs. Harrison and Leake's report of 1860, I would invite attention. That report, after the extract there given, thus continues :—

> We cannot at present say certainly whether the best means for the irrigation of the district would lie in the restoration of the old system : for without an accurate and extended survey we are unable to judge of what the necessary expenditure would be. The works would doubtless not be free from engineering difficulties, but we apprehend nothing insuperable, seeing that all that has to be done has already been done once. One of the main difficulties which we foresee, and on which indeed great stress has been laid on a former occasion when these works were under discussion, namely, the difficulty of disposing of the torrents which in the wet season pour themselves in full flood across the course of the ęla, has suggested to us a plan more simple certainly than the restoration of the old works, and one which we think would be found on further inquiry to be less expensive. In a scheme which has for its object the supply of water to a district parched by drought, it is surely more than paradoxical that this periodical abundance of water should appear before us as a difficulty. All that we want is water, and here it is in plenty and close at hand to every part of the district. So far we could wish for nothing better. We do not, however, at present know enough of the country to pass an opinion as to the means for rendering this water available for the end in view, though we have little doubt that a careful examination of the hillsides would open to us many advantageous spots where stone tanks could be found for the purpose of retaining the water of the rains till such time as it would be required for irrigating the lands below.

Mr. Dickson in 1883 urged that it should be carefully and thoroughly explored and surveys be made of its great works and various branching canals, and in 1885 pressed for a detailed engineering survey, including the cross sections from the headworks at Yakundáwa to a point about four miles north of the Galpaḍi-hęla road, that is, to the point where the ęla ceases to benefit the Wéragama fields ; that the survey should be made in accordance with the rules laid down in the Colonial Secretary's circular of June 10, 1882 ; and that if the survey of the headworks—I presume Mr. Caley's, annexed to his estimate of £11,000 dated 1858—were not made in accordance therewith, the levels should be corrected. Unfortunately this, I believe, was never done, the Provincial Board, before I came to the Province, having postponed the consideration of the scheme in view of the fact that the Elahęra works had been placed in hand, to which unfortunately priority had been given. I would again press for the execution of the engineering survey, in order that all the facts of the case may be put before Government.

The same may be urged with regard to an engineering survey of the Elahęra canal, where the proposal for the extension across the Kongęṭi-oya is delayed until the canal has been levelled throughout, and gradients have been laid down with reference to the general fall of the canal.

THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE.

The celebration of Her Majesty's jubilee on Coronation Day, June 28, was very successful on the Kandy esplanade, and the spectacle during the reading of the record in the Octagon, where I was supported by all the officers, civil and military, of the station, was very effective. There was a gallery along one side of the esplanade for the ladies, the troops were drawn up under the Octagon facing the flagstaff, and in a semi-circle facing the troops and Octagon were the Kandyan chiefs with their attendants, musicians, banners, elephants, and all the paraphernalia of the perahęra, while thousands of natives from the villages in the vicinity formed a setting for the official group at once bright, spirited, and picturesque. Particulars are given in the diary extracts. The celebrations at all the village centres throughout the Kandyan country were hearty and well attended.

AGRI-HORTICULTURAL SHOW.

The Agri-Horticultural Show on May 6 and 7 was very successful, and attracted a large number of visitors to Kandy. It was followed by a similar exhibition in Mátalé in September, and others are likely to follow in other Districts which cannot fail to prove beneficial to agriculture both European and native.

EXPENDITURE ON PUBLIC WORKS.

I annex a statement of the expenditure of the Public Works Department in the Province in 1887 on works of construction and upkeep, with which I have been favoured by Mr. Vine, Provincial Engineer :—

	Construction.		Upkeep.		Total.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Buildings ...	21,692	91	22,798	40	44,491	31
Roads and Bridges...	117,377	31	185,835	54	303,212	85
Irrigation ...	27,083	72	10,116	39	37,200	11
Total ...	166,153	94	218,750	33	384,904	27

The reports on the Districts of Kandy, Mátalé, and Nuwara Eliya are appended.

W. E. T. SHARPE,
Government Agent.

Kandy, April 28, 1888.

Extracts from Diary.

February 12.—Went to Teldeniya and there took up cases, inquiries, and examination of candidates. In the afternoon inspected the earthwork along Alutwelawahala-ela. The rock at a place called Eramudumaditta should be, I think, further blasted away. Must write to Provincial Engineer. Rest of earthwork and wélla well done.

February 13.—Drove up the Raygala road its whole length. In fair order. Visited Poddalgoda estate of Mr. Young.

February 14.—Returned to Teldeniya. *En route* inspected Udispattu police station. In the afternoon drove to Urugala, where Mr. Hamilton kindly gave me the use of the Magistrate's bungalow.

February 15.—Inquiries and exemptions in Upper Dumbara. Visited post office.

February 16.—Proceeded along the new road to Nugatenna gap. Thence the trace is high above the villages into Gandeka. The Ratémahatmayá asks an alteration so as to go lower down and strike Medawaka. Must consult Superintendent of Minor Roads. The work from Galmal-oya road on has been, I think, very well done, and is creditable to Mr. MacDonald, the Superintendent of Minor Roads. Inquiries, examination of candidates &c. Visited police station and school, which seems well taught by Mr. Abekoon, son of the Kórála of Mátalé, Gampahasiya pattu, who is well reported of. 59 boys present out of 70.

March 3.—Drove to Paywila on circuit in that part of Dumbara. Breakfasted with the Police Magistrate. Worked and went in the evening to Madulkelé stopping at Ununagala with Mr. and Mrs. Thomas. The long stretch of tea under cultivation in this district is remarkable, when I remember that in 1883 it was an expanse of withered coffee stumps. Mr. Thomas, of Ununagala, has over 600 acres of tea planted up. He apprehends that the labour question will again become a burning one in a year or two, and warns us that our roads must be kept equal to a very heavy and increasing strain of wheel traffic.

March 17.—Went to Osborne. Inspected the line of the proposed road along the river in extension of the Lower Dikoya road beyond Castlereagh bridge. Met several of the promoters of the scheme at breakfast at Mr. Harcourt Skrine's, and had a conference with them afterwards.

N.B.—Donnybrook gap said not to be higher than the Claverton bungalow.

The outlet for the Lower Maskeliya estates would seem to be to Watawala station or down to Ginigathéna by a grant-in-aid road and thence to Náwalapitiya.

Query.—Would those estates be content to send their traffic up to Hatton if the road were opened from Theberton *via* Donnybrook gap to the Dikoya road?

Query.—Would it be right now to introduce the grant of free roads when the whole country has been supplied under the grant-in-aid system?

April 1.—Annual sale of arrack farms. Tenders opened, eighteen in number. The highest for the whole Province—*i. e.*, the Districts of Kandy, Mátalé, and Nuwara Eliya—was Rs. 276,050 against Rs. 215,650 for 1886-87, an increase of Rs. 60,400, the person tendering being S. Morais, the present renter, who has given satisfaction, and made when called on the usual deposit of ten per cent. in cash = = Rs. 27,605. I submitted his bid for favourable consideration, subject to criticisms at headquarters as to the extent of the re-action over the Island now asserting itself after the lowest point of financial depression has been reached, I hope. There was a large attendance and much suppressed excitement. The increase is, to my mind, very gratifying.

May 6.—Agri-Horticultural Show. Exhibition buildings quite ready and good show expected. I informally opened it at 2 P.M. The art collection is really very good. Great thanks due to Mr. Lawrie, who has taken an immense amount of trouble. There was no less than Rs. 580 taken at the entrances. The Volunteer band in attendance, as the charge demanded for the A. & S. Highlanders (Rs. 260!) was too prohibitory. His Excellency and Lady Gordon arrived in the afternoon from Nuwara Eliya for the express purpose of attending the Show, and of Lady Gordon distributing the prizes to-morrow evening.

May 7.—The judging of native produce, &c., devolved on Mr. Templer, some of the chiefs, and myself. The exhibition of grain is very good. There was a very large attendance this day, the charge for admission being only 25 cents. The prizes were distributed at 4 30 P.M. by Lady Gordon. Hotels all crammed.

May 9.—Meeting of Jubilee Committee, when it was resolved to refer to a general meeting the Colombo Committee's proposal that local bodies should join in one central permanent memorial, and suggest whether it should be monumental or a charitable institution. There has been as yet but a very poor response. The fact is that the country is deplorably poor just now.

May 11.—Agri-Horticultural Committee meeting. Bills all in and everything in a fair way of being settled in the way of claims. Over 2,000 persons must have attended the second day.

May 17.—Started on circuit for Udapalata. I on the way turned aside to inspect the Elpitiya Rája-ela and was much disappointed with the way in which the repairs of the "bund" near the new anicut have been done by the landowners. The loose earth has been merely thrown up, no puddled earth used. I fear the work will not stand a flood.

May 19.—Returned to Kandy, having been summoned to meet the Siamese Prince and suite who came up from Colombo by morning train. Met the Prince at the station, and took him to the hotel, where good rooms had been secured by Mr. Brodhurst. In the afternoon there was, as arranged rather hurriedly, an exposition of the Dalada relic for His Highness's delectation, after which I drove him round the lake.

May 20.—I took the Prince in my carriage to the station, and then Mr. Satow, the British Minister at Siam, to Péradeniya Gardens, where Dr. Trimen received him and showed him all.

May 21.—Had a meeting of the Tamil community about the Jubilee, to stir them up.

May 23.—Agri-Horticultural claims being settled satisfactorily. Mr. Lawrie has been of immense help. Sales of materials very satisfactory. Cadjans, bamboos, &c., taken over at valuation for the Jubilee Ladies' gallery. It is proposed that the Government Agent and the District Court should jointly undertake the illumination of the Octagon tower, the rest of the battlements to be done by the chiefs.

June 18.—*Jubilee Committees.* Arranged for charitable votes to poor, Friend-in-Need Society pensioners, and Industrial School, to the boys of which a feast is to be given at noon on 28th instant.

June 28.—*Jubilee Day, Kandy celebration.* The morning threatening. The parade of troops fixed for the barrack square was marred a little by a shower, but weather cleared by 8 A.M. and troops and native perahera arrived on the esplanade in bright sunshine. The troops drew up in a line under the Octagon facing the flagstaff in middle of esplanade, the elephants with headmen and chiefs in a semi-circle at the far end facing the tower, the people on either side, and ladies in the gallery along Náta Déwálé wall. Six Ratémahatmayás met me at the Máha Walkada and escorted me to the Pattirippuwa, where I read the "Record," while the chiefs read it below on the backs of elephants in Sinhalese and Tamil. At its conclusion the Royal standard was hoisted, arms presented, salute of twenty-one guns fired, and "God Save the Queen" sung by school children. Service in St Paul's followed. In the afternoon the Recreation Ground was opened by me. Games and sports followed. The feeding of the poor, feast to Industrial school, &c., passed off well. In the evening at 7 there was a fine perahera, which closed at 9.30 with the presentation to me of the chiefs' portion of the Loyal Address. Then fireworks.

August 22.—Went to Hatton with Captain Hansard to meet the Police Magistrate, Mr. Northmore, and confer about police arrangements, new buildings proposed, &c.

August 23.—I drove along the road with Mr. Northmore. The best site for police station and court-house—to which a Fiscal's office ought to be added—would be on some marshy ground through which a stream flows below Mr. Edwards' store. The buildings would have to be built on pillars, but the whole triangular lot could be drained and made a good site. It is I believe private property, and should be taken up under the Land Acquisition Ordinance. We went to see land on the opposite side (higher side) of the road on the Dunbar estate, where Mr. Northmore thinks a reservoir should be built to dam up a little stream, the water of which he would propose to take round the hill to Hatton bazaar for the flushing of the drains. This would be an expensive undertaking, but something must be done in the way of sanitation, or we shall have an outbreak of disease: so foetid,

and abominable is the crowded Hatton bazaar, which is fast extending in the direction of Fruit Hill on one side and to Dikoya on the other, and will soon become one town with them. The road to the court-house (a rented building) is filthy in the extreme, and it is simply impossible to prevent nuisances of all kinds. I think a report should be called for from the Director of Public Works as regards (1) site for public buildings; (2) systems of drains in the bazaar; (3) water supply. Hatton is fast becoming an important town and a centre of all the large districts of Dikoya, &c. A foot-bridge over the railway close to the bazaar and at the upper end of the station is also urgently called for. The present state of things is highly inconvenient for the public, not to say dangerous.

August 24.—I visited the Kandy hospital and found it in good order. I also inspected the Bógambra jail. All in order.

August 26.—Went to Mátalé to confer with Assistant Government Agent on many things. Arrangements for the commutation are making fair progress. I hope Mr. Commissioner Crawford will be ready early in October, or there will be difficulty in having the new registers and receipts ready on March 31 when the new collection should commence. Mr. Lawrie and I inspected the garden land at Mátalé taken over by the Octagon Library Committee for a mortgage they had over it—a bad bargain. There is a small house rented at Rs. 10 monthly to a school teacher, who occupies but does not improve the rest of the land, some fifteen acres in extent. We must, I think, try and get the rest of the land given on lease for planting to an improving tenant, who will take an interest and have an interest in the success of the planting operations.

November 8.—Mr. Meyer, a German engaged in tobacco cultivation in Sumatra, is anxious to try the cultivation in Ceylon. I suggested that he should try Dumbara and then visit Mátalé and the North-Western Province. He wants to get some 500 acres, he says, with a view to extension to as many thousands. Mr. Ingleton, of Dumbara, has been showing him land there and tobacco grown on Rájawela, which have raised in Mr. Meyer's mind a very favourable opinion of Ceylon as a tobacco-growing country.

November 24.—Mr. Meyer has applied for some land in Mátalé for tobacco.

November 25.—Sale of Toll Rents. Government have decided to recover in aumani certain tolls from January 1 next on Dikoya and Dimbula roads.

December 23.—Meeting of the Provincial Irrigation Board. Settled our recommendations for 1888 as noted below :—

(1) Small works (Chairman)—Rs. 1,000.
(2) Uḍugoda Bandára-ela in Lower Dumbara—Rs. 910 for a retaining wall near amuna where the unusual floods did damage.
(3) Gampola Palleamuna—Rs. 700 to repair some damage done by the excessive flood. (Letter of Provincial Engineer to Director of Public Works, 2,475 of December 16, 1887.) The pier constructed was admittedly not strong enough.
(4) Werapiṭiya-ela in Lower Dumbara—Rs. 3,000 for the improvement of several crossings where the ela crosses kanduras, or water-courses. The landowners have legally bound themselves to open the waterway to a width of 5 ft. The work is described in my letter No. 3 of March 7, 1887, to Central Irrigation Board.
(5) Alutwela Wahala-ela at Teldeniya in Páta Dumbara—Rs. 1,800.
(6) N. E Waduwáwela-ela—Rs. 5,070.
(7) N. E. Má-ela from Mul-oya—Rs. 2,330.
(8) Kanganies, &c.—Rs. 1,352.
(9) M. Ñádeniya—Rs. 892.
(10) M. Village tanks—Rs. 5,000.
(11) M. Dewahuwewa Kandapalla—Rs. 5,500.

REPORT ON THE KANDY DISTRICT FOR 1887.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

THE returns for these are appended to my report on the Province. The revenue of the Kandy District has been steadily declining for several years. The amount collected in 1887 was Rs. 37,814 less than that collected in the previous year.

Land Sales.—Only 27 lots, aggregating 223A. 2R. 16P., were sold. The following statement shows the number of claims inquired into and how disposed of during the years 1886 and 1887 in the District of Kandy Proper :—

How disposed of.	1886. Rs.	1887. Rs.
To be granted at Rs. 10 per acre	1	2
To be granted at half-improved value	6	6
To be granted on certificate of quiet possession	108	24
Recommended for sale	2	6
Total ...	117	38

Land Revenue.—The table annexed shows the state of the collection of the commuted tax on paddy in the District of Kandy :—

	1886. Rs.	1887. Rs.
One year's revenue, exclusive of exemption	57,484	57,019
Arrears outstanding on December 31 of previous year ...	972	—
Percentage outstanding on December 31	1	—
Collected during the year	58,456	57,019
Percentage of collections to one year's revenue	101	100
Arrears outstanding on December 31	—	—
Percentage of arrears to one year's revenue	—	—

The whole tax was recovered without difficulty during the year. Eighty fields were sold in default of payment, and were all purchased for the Crown. Of these, sixty-seven were in one division, Uḍapaláta. Many of these fields had gone out of cultivation, and in other cases the amounts for which the owners had commuted were undoubtedly too high. In five divisions, Tumpané, Hárispattu, Yaṭinuwara, Páta Dumbara, and Páta Hewáhęta, there were no sales. The voluntary commutation for ten years expired on December 31, and a new commutation under the Grain

Tax Ordinance was made by Mr. G. W. Templer. This commutation will involve a loss of revenue of about Rs. 6,000 per annum.

Licenses showed a satisfactory increase of Rs. 6,434, marking the return of prosperity.

Stamps realised Rs. 3,081 less than in 1886 and Rs. 10,324 less than in 1885.

Taxes.—The annexed statement shows the state of the Police Tax collection :—

	One year's Assessment Tax, 1887.		Arrears outstanding on December 31, 1886.		Percentage of Arrears to one year's Assessment.	Collected in 1887.		Percentage of Collections to one year's Assessment.	Arrears outstanding on December 31, 1887.		Percentage of Arrears to one year's Assessment.
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.		Rs.	c.		Rs.	c.	
Deltota	738	37	—		—	738	37	100	—		—
Dikoya	1,041	92	4	2	—	1,045	94	100	—		—
Maskeliya	499	28	20	59	4	519	87	104	—		—
Watawala	236	61	—		—	216	74	91	19	87	8
Náwalapitiya	1,393	56	214	18	13	1,339	38	96	268	36	19
Kadiyanlena	437	40	74	50	13	419	34	95	25	56	5
Pussellawa	1,025	16	257	66	25	1,060	24	103	222	58	21
Gampola	1,216	28	465	44	39	1,363	58	112	318	14	26
Total ...	6,588	58	1,036	39	14	6,703	46	101	854	51	12

Reimbursements.—Collections on account of Medical Aid are shown below :—

	1884.		1885.		1886.		1887.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Amount collected during the previous year	7,693	78	20,101	93	23,362	60	21,377	91
Amount due for previous year and remaining uncollected on January 1 ...	6,741	56	9,367	79	7,947	60	9,854	59
Amount collected during the year ...	20,101	93	23,362	60	21,377	91	24,181	39
Amount remaining uncollected on December 31	9,367	79	7,947	60	9,854	59	12,531	50

FOOD SUPPLY OF THE PEOPLE.

The extent of paddy land in the Kandy District as shown in the grain tax registers is shown below :—

	A.	P.	K.
Liable to tax	9,571	1	8
Temple Land	1,804	3	3
Redeemed	5,795	1	9
Sold by Crown, free	691	0	6
Exempt for loyalty	18	3	0
Crown	102	1	6
Total ...	17,984	0	2

Taking five bushels to the amunam, this gives a total extent of 89,920 bushels, which at fifteen-fold—by no means too high an average in this District where two crops a year are the rule—gives a total of 1,348,800 bushels of paddy, or (say) 675,000 bushels of rice. Taking the Sinhalese village population at 150,000, or half the total population of the District, this gives four and a half bushels a head per annum. The average price of village paddy during the year was Re. 1·12 a bushel and that of Indian rice Rs. 3·15 a bushel.

In the poorer districts kurakkan takes the place of paddy. There being no tax on fine grain grown on private land, it is impossible to give even approximately an estimate of the amount of food derived from this source.

Besides these two staples, the diet of the Kandyan peasant is supplemented by various kinds of fine grain, by jak and other fruits, and numerous species of vegetables, yams, and sweet potatoes.

Crops.—The crops of paddy and fine grain were good, the maha being reported to have been above the average both in yield and in the quality of the grain.

CRIME—CATTLE STEALING.

I am glad to hear from the District Judge that cattle-stealing was decidedly on the decrease in the Province in 1887 as compared with previous years.

The town of Kandy was remarkably free from robberies.

In the Kandy District several gang-robberies occurred, and several cases where the knife was used. The use of the knife ought to be put down by the infliction of lashes in every case of conviction.

There were tried in the Kandy District Court 101 cases with 196 accused.

SANITARY CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

The health of the people was excellent.

DISEASE AMONG CATTLE.

With the exception of a few cases of hoof disease in Tumpané in the beginning of the year, there was a general absence of disease. During the third quarter of the year cattle in the two Dumbaras suffered much from want of water and pasturage.

NEW AREAS OF CULTIVATION.

No new areas have been opened by native cultivators, but the planting up of abandoned coffee land with tea by Europeans has gone on rapidly during the year.

GAṆSABHÁWAS.

The revenue of the Gaṇsabháwas was Rs. 2,405·19 and the expenditure Rs. 2,162·68. The following statement shows the communal works carried out during the year :—

Division.	Mileage of Roads repaired.	Number of Wells, Tanks, Spouts, Elas, &c., repaired.	Number of Ḗdanḍas, Bridges, &c., repaired.	Number of Ambalams repaired.	Number of Schools repaired.
Uḍunuwara ...	80	9	6	25	6
Yaṭinuwara ...	35¼	1	—	—	—
Tumpané ...	65½	37	8	16	—
Hárispattu ...	89¾	12	7	27	2
Páta Dumbara ...	115¼	22	7	50	8
Uḍa Dumbara ...	82¼	—	4	26	4
Páta Hewáhęṭa ...	102	243	—	1	2
Total ...	570	324	32	145	22

During the year the divisions of Uḍapaláta and Uḍa Bulatgama were brought within the operations of the Ordinance. The Gaṇsabháwa of Uḍapaláta will be able to render important assistance to the irrigation works being carried out in that division.

REGISTRAR'S DEPARTMENT.

I append the usual returns :—

Provincial Registrar's Department, Kandy District.

	1885.	1886.	1887.
Kandyan Marriages under the Ordinance No. 3 of 1870 ...	426	1,175	1,267
General Marriages under the Ordinance No. 13 of 1863 ...	170	258	237
Births	7,004	6,697	8,005
Deaths	8,246	6,402	5,987

Divorces under the Ordinance No. 3 of 1870.

	1885.	1886.	1887.
Pending on January 1 ...	33	67	72
Instituted	109	104	102
Divorce allowed ...	33	22	39
Divorce disallowed ...	3	1	—
Cases dismissed	23	59	38
Cases settled	16	17	26
Pending on December 31 ...	67	72	71

The increasing tendency to register Kandyan marriages which I noted in my report for 1886 has continued during the past year.

WORK DONE BY THE IRRIGATION BOARD DURING THE YEAR.

A sum of Rs. 2,486·34 was expended on the Werapiṭiya Maha-ęla in Páta Dumbara. Rock was removed from the Koṭa-gaṇga and the lower channel to the third mile, a retaining wall was built at Askalgeḍiya, and concrete and masonry were filled in between the boulders across the Koṭa-gaṇga and Dotalu-oya.

The work of last year on the Alutwela Wahala-ęla in the same division was continued, the rock at the point where the diversion of the line of ęla takes place being blasted out. The amount expended was Rs. 40.

In connection with the Aladeniya-ęla, in Hárispattuwa, an irrigation culvert was constructed to carry water from the ęla under the main road to the fields on the other side, at an expense of Rs. 279·30.

A sum of Rs. 128·20 was spent on the Węlikukulgoḍa-amuna in the same division in removing rock and packing dry rubble to form a dam.

A second set of planks was fitted to the amuna on the Uḍugoḍa Baṇḍára-ęla in Páta Dumbara at an expense of Rs. 175·37.

A set of sluice boards were provided for the Ęlpitiya Rája-ęla in Uḍapaláta, and the sill of the dam was cemented, the cost being Rs. 118·14.

WORKING OF THE DISTRICT ROAD COMMITTEE OF KANDY FOR 1887.

Revenue.—The following is a statement of the revenue of the District Road Committee, Kandy, for 1887, as compared with 1886 :—

Commutation.	1886. Rs.	c.	1887. Rs.	c.
Balance on January 1	11,020	52	12,829	17
Commutation recovered in cash	39,335	50	43,707	92
Arrears recovered in cash	1,286	25	1,010	18
Recovered in labour	8,219	0	2,792	50
Unexpended two-thirds commutation ...	257	84	726	54
Miscellaneous receipts	12	35	3	99
Government grant in aid of minor works ...	—		600	0
Carried over ...	60,131	46	61,670	30

	1886. Rs.	c.	1887. Rs.	c.
Resthouses. Brought forward ...	60,131	46	61,670	30
Balance on January 1	2,122	73	1,326	39
Resthouse collections	1,286	25	1,436	12
Resthouse furniture	31	56	48	50
Total ...	63,572	0	64,481	31
The liabilities to be charged against the balance that remained on January 1 were ...	9,662	26	13,070	50

This represents unpaid commission and expenditure incurred about the end of the year and not paid up to December 31.

An increase in the recoveries of cash of Rs. 4,372 was made against a decrease of Rs. 5,426 in the value of labour recovered.

Expenditure.—The comparative statement of expenditure for 1886 and 1887 is as follows:—

	1886. Rs.	c.	1887. Rs.	c.
Roads and ferries	30,102	73	28,683	60
Establishment and general charges ...	12,166	12	12,511	24
Commission on collections	6,139	77	4,657	51
Resthouse-keepers' salaries	1,466	50	1,352	50
Repairs and equipment of resthouses ...	647	65	899	26
Total ...	50,522	77	48,104	11

The average rate of expenditure per mile for the ordinary upkeep of the different classes of minor roads was: cart roads, Rs. 44; bridle roads, Rs. 20; footpaths, Rs. 8; in addition to which Rs. 8,930·54 was spent on permanent works on minor roads and in the construction of cart roads.

The expenditure of commutation on principal roads for 1886 and 1887 was as follows:—

	1886.		1887.	
Cash ...	11,040	25	11,707	0
Labour ...	2,332	50	675	0
Total ...	13,372	75	12,382	0

The following votes were allowed as contributions to planters' roads on the grant-in-aid principle, viz.:—

	Rs.	c.
Raṇgala to Nitre Cave	300	0
Arambakaḍa to Bokkawela	50	75
Kaḍugannáwa towards Kirimęṭiya or Alagalla	100	0
The Flash (Maḍulkęlé to Knuckles)	50	0
Queenwood gap road or Ottery gap road	150	0
Dikoya gap to Koṭiyágala	75	0
Bridge on road through Rozelle	54	90
Bridlepath, Northcave to Horton Plains	80	0
Rambukpiṭiya road	100	0
For a covered drain and 20 ft. roadway to Mount Temple ...	52	10
Uḍispattuwa to Raṇgala	200	0
Bridge over Sulu-gaṇga	200	0
Alawatugoḍa to junction of the road from Ankumbura ...	100	0
Arambekaḍa Bokkawela road to Kurunęgala main road ...	15	0
Uḍispattuwa to certain estates	100	0
Total ...	1,627	75

The following is a comparative statement of the work under the Ordinance No. 31 of 1884 for 1886 and 1887:—

	Percentage on the Number liable for one year. 1886.	1887.
Paid single rate	62·0	73·99
Exempted	5·0	3·30
Paid double rate	7·0	5·16
Worked six days	16·0	4·85
Worked twelve days	0·32	0·50
Commuted and paid fine	1·0	1·0
Absentees, deaths, &c.	7·0	10·20
Balance on December 31 of each year ...	2·0	1·0

The percentage of persons who paid at single rate shows a marked increase, while the decrease in the percentage of those who worked is equally marked.

The small number of persons who perform double labour shows that in nine cases out of ten this provision of the Ordinance merely serves to extend the period for which defaulters evade punishment.

W. E. T. SHARPE,
Government Agent.

Kandy, April 28, 1888.

REPORT ON THE NUWARA ELIYA DISTRICT FOR 1887.

REVENUE.

THE revenue of 1887 showed a decrease of Rs. 31,716·18 over that of 1886, due principally to the fact that postage stamps were supplied to postmasters by the Colombo Post Office instead of from the Nuwara Eliya kachchéri, and that the receipts under the head *Postal* were therefore Rs. 36,061 less than in the previous year.

The expenditure was Rs. 2,654·20 less than in 1886, due more especially to a reduction under he head of *Revenue Services.*

THE FOOD SUPPLY OF THE PEOPLE.

Except in the outlying portions of the District the food supply was ample, the estate and bazaar population depending, for the most part, on imported rice, and the villagers on what they grow themselves. There was some distress in Walapané, principally among women and children, in the latter part of the year, when the paddy crop came to an end, the men having left the villages in search of employment on estates, and the rest of the family remaining to shift for themselves.

As a rule, both the paddy and chena crops were good, the prices of rice, &c., being as follows :—

	Kotmalé.		Uḍa Héwáheṭa.		Walapané.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Rice, per bushel	4	0	3	75	3	50
Paddy, do.	1	25	1	25	1	0
Kurakkan, do.	0	87	0	75	0	75
Indian corn, do.	1	25	1	0	1	0

LEGISLATION REQUIRED.

I think an amendment should be made in the Grain Tax Ordinance—first, to make the crop of a field liable for the tax and not the land itself ; and second, to fix the price of paddy per bushel for the purposes of the tax at the rate ruling at the threshing floor at harvest time.

Considering the enormous number of fields that have changed hands during the last few years in those Districts into which the commutation system has been introduced, I hardly think it will be denied that the Grain Tax Ordinance has effected a revolution in the ownership of land that was not contemplated by its framers, and that something should be done to arrest the change before it leads to disastrous results.

I gave some figures in my Administration Report for 1886 to show how harshly the system of selling fields for arrears of commutation tax has worked in this District, and I repeat them here :

"I find that out of a total of 18,848 fields in the District, 2,889 have been sold for default : that is to say, over 15 per cent. of the fields have forcibly changed hands in four years.

"Of the fields sold, 1,900 are now cultivated and 989—that is, about 8 per cent. of the number in constant cultivation at the last commutation (12,148)—have been abandoned.

"In the case of the fields sold, 1,048 of the late owners are dead and 382 with their families have left the District.

"In 1881 the population of the villages in which sales have been held was 34,216 ; it is now as near as can be ascertained, 30,693,—a decrease of over 10 per cent."

I notice in Mr. Elliott's Administration Report of 1886 for the Southern Province, that sales had taken place in 2,269 cases during four years ; and I believe in the Batticaloa District, since the introduction of the Ordinance, something like 2,000 acres of paddy land have gone out of cultivation as a consequence of its working. These figures are surely startling, and show that there is something wrong in the system,—something that requires speedy amendment before the harm done becomes incalculable.

I venture to think that this state of things is due to the introduction of two new principles into the Grain Tax Ordinance : first, the land has been made liable for the tax in the first instance, in fact, the tax has been converted from a tax on the produce of land into a land tax pure and simple ; and secondly, that the paddy producer is made to pay more than one-tenth of his produce to the Crown, because he is made to pay, in addition, the cost of transporting his one-tenth from the threshing floor to the market place.

The great argument in favour of the continuance of the tax on paddy is that it has existed from time immemorial, and that the people understand and submit to it ; but it must be remembered that in times past the tax was not a tax on the land, but on the produce of the land. It was collected in a particular manner, either in kind or by farming the Crown share ; and, however unjust and oppressive the renting system was, it never drove the people from their villages and left them to wander forth as thieves and vagabonds over the face of the country.

It was unfortunately the apparent success of the commutation system in the Central Province that led to the introduction of the Grain Tax Ordinance ; but the people were then in the very hey-day of prosperity : the country was rich and money was plentiful, and they had good coffee crops ; and it was not until this prosperity had passed away that the weight of the paddy tax, when the crops failed, began to be felt.

The Sinhalese are an improvident race. Few save up money one year to pay for the taxes of the next. They depend on their crops for their ready money, and when these fail they cannot meet their liabilities and their lands are sold.

No doubt the annual commutation system and the power to recover tax by the sale of the land facilitate the recovery of the revenue ; but it would be better that the revenue should suffer than the people : and if experience has shown that the Grain Tax Ordinance can only be worked by rapid changes in the ownership of land, it had better be modified or swept away altogether.

The greatest inducement a native can have to be honest and hardworking is the possession of a paddy field,—that is to say, a certain honest means of livelihood. But if this property is liable to sudden confiscation for default of the payment of tax on it, paddy cultivation becomes a precarious industry, and men naturally seek more profitable, if less honourable, modes of subsistence.

One of the leading principles of the new Criminal Codes is, that a man's person and his movable property only shall be liable for his crimes and not his landed property; it being considered, I imagine, that to deprive him of the latter is to deprive him of his last chance of reformation; and if a man's landed property is not liable for his criminal laches, *a fortiori* it should not be made so for his civil ones.

The object of the commutation system, as I understand it, is first to do away with the abuses of the renting system; and secondly, to enable the villager to pay in money the value of one-tenth of his crop instead of giving this one-tenth to an outsider.

Under the old renting system the villager gave the renter the Government share on the spot; and it is not therefore just to force him, under the commutation system, to pay as well the cost of transport of such portion of his paddy as will suffice to meet the tax, to a town, it may be, many miles away, as to do this is to force him to sell in the village, or neighbouring bazaar, more than one-tenth of his crop to meet his liability.

It may be contended that the revenue should not suffer by the commutation system; but I submit that such loss, when it occurs, represents the sum to be paid by Government for abolishing the abuses of the renting system, the illegal profits and extortion of the renters, and that it is unfair to replace these abuses by the exaction of more than the Crown is entitled to.

There is a consensus of opinion amongst all who have administered this District of late years, that the present commutation rates and the assessments are generally far too heavy and oppressive, and the enormous number of sales for default in the payment of the commutation tax shows how well-founded this opinion is.

Loss of population in this country is a far greater evil than loss of revenue; and if experience has shown, as I submit it has, that the excessive rates have in consequence of these rates had the effect of turning people by hundreds out of their ancestral lands, and reducing the village population by from 10 per cent. to 15 per cent. during the last six years, it is time that the rates should be reduced to what is fair and just, and that nothing should be added to the burden of taxation on a people who have, as it is, to give one-tenth of all the rice (that is to say, the principal food they produce) to the Crown.

The price of paddy in this District at harvest time at the threshing floor ranges from fifty cents to eighty-seven and a half cents per bushel, according to locality; but, so far from accepting this rate, the Grain Commissioner has fixed Re. 1·20 as the rate to be paid. No doubt he has acted strictly in accordance with the Grain Tax Ordinance in doing this, but it is this Ordinance that I would wish to see amended.

A very strong argument in favour of my view of the matter is to be found in the fact, that when the commutation system was first introduced into this District the rate fixed was forty cents a bushel; that is to say, rather under the then price of paddy at the threshing floor; and if the principle I contend for was understood and observed when the commutation was a voluntary one, why should it be altered when it becomes compulsory?

I would therefore suggest that the grain tax should be continued only as a commutation tax on the produce of a field; that it should be levied only when there is a crop on the land; that a man should not be allowed, under a penalty, to reap his crop until he has paid the tax due on it; and that the price at which the tax is computed should be the value of the paddy at the threshing floor at harvest time.

Turning to other matters, I think the time has come when the exemption of the Indian agricultural labourer from road tax should be abolished. Whatever effect it might have had on the supply of labour at the commencement of the planting enterprise, it is difficult to imagine that it would make any difference now. A cooly who receives thirty-three cents a day, and who does not mind running up a debt of £10 or £15 to his kangáni, would never be deterred from coming to Ceylon because he has to pay Re. 1·50 a year as road tax there; and why the poverty-stricken villager of Walapane, who scarcely sees money from one year's end to another, should have to pay the tax, and the well-paid, well-fed, and well-cared-for Tamil cooly escape altogether, is not now very apparent.

I would further suggest an amendment of the Criminal Law, so as to give Police Courts the power to inflict the rattan on adults in cases of theft, to punish gambling without restriction as to where the gambling was committed; and I would reduce the ordinary diet in prison for the first six weeks.

The law relating to the preservation of deer, elephants, and buffaloes, and the possession of firearms, also requires amendment; and I hope the recommendations of the Game Committee—the principle being that a yearly license should be taken out for the carrying of firearms, and that a heavy export duty should be levied on hides and horns—will be adopted.

I need not touch on the subjects of the Arrack Revenue, the Administration of Buddhist Temporalities, the Civil Code, and the Mortgage Laws, as that amendment is required in this direction, and will shortly be effected, is too well known to need further remark.

WORKS REQUIRED.

I annex a list of the works I consider should be undertaken as soon as possible in this District:—

Railway.

Railway extension from Nánu-oya to Haputalé.

Irrigation.

Uḍa Hewáhęta.

Bodi-ęla.—The work on this ęla has commenced and should be completed as speedily as possible.
Waduwáwela-ęla.—The work is in progress. Headworks and masonry repairs.
Kurundu-oya-ęla No. 2.—Masonry repairs to channel. An important ęla in Pallégampaha kóralé.

Dehigaspiṭiya-ela.—Headworks.
Má-ela.—Headworks and repairs (masonry) to channel. An old irrigation work which supplies water to fields in Kohoka kóralé, &c.
Happawara-ela.—Restoration of an old irrigation channel. A work that has been in contemplation for some years past.
Napotawela-uda-ela.—Blasting and masonry repairs to channel.
Pallé-arawe-ela.—To lay spouting across a weak portion of the bank of the ela.
Batgala-ela.—Blasting and laying of spouts across a portion of the ela that cannot be permanently repaired by a masonry wall.
Palamalanga-ela.—To re-open a culvert that was blocked up across the road.
Demódaramęda-ela.—Blasting and masonry repairs.
Walalawela tank.—A new tank which, if carried out, will keep the fields in the Diyatilaka kóralé constantly supplied with water.
Walugaṇwęwa.—This is an ancient tank the bed of which is now utilised as paddy fields. A very great boon and a long felt want would be conferred on the field and landowners of Diyatilaka kóralé by the restoration of this tank, besides encouraging the people to asweddumise new lands.
Malullewęwa.—An old tank that requires clearing out and repairs to the bund and sluice.
Kandé-ela.—Blasting and masonry at headworks.
Unagollepalle-ela, Munwatta-ela, Hawarioya-ela, Udagampaha Má-ela, Heraliyapiṭiya-ela, Gane-ela, Hiriyanwela-ela, Govinda-arawe-ela, Ambatoṭa-ela, Palgaha-arawe-ela, Elamburé-ela, Maussakandure Męda-ela, Attanakumbura Męda-ela, Udawela Má-ela, Maḍawela-ela.—Blasting and masonry works.
Galukepinum-ela.—Masonry repairs.

Walapane.

Gamawela-ela.—Masonry repairs to channel and blasting.
Demaṭa-arawe-ela.—Blasting and masonry.
Bolagandéwela-ela.—The restoration of this ancient work has been in contemplation for a very long time. If the work be carried out it will irrigate a large tract of land and thereby increase the food supply of the poverty-stricken villagers of Walapane.
Mulahal-ela.—Masonry repairs to channel. This is a large and important work in Walapane.
Eraulla-ela.—Repairs to channel and upkeep of ela.
Epiṭawela-ela.—Blasting and masonry repairs.
Mánilwela-ela.— Do.
Maussawe-ela.— Masonry repairs to channel.
Kúruwi-ela, Má-ela in Teripela, Má-ela in Ketakandura, Halmewęwa tank, Hégan-ela, Humbaharawe-ela, Batemure-ela, Mulatawela-ela.—Blasting and masonry works.

Kotmale.

Medama-ela.—An important work in Kotmale. Blasting and masonry repairs are required along the channel.
Mędakande-ela.—Blasting and masonry repairs.
Niyangandore-ela.—A new scheme to improve the water supply to fields in Niyangandora.
Vine-ela.—A new scheme suggested by Mr. Vine of the Public Works Department to irrigate lands below Tavalantęnna estate, Ramboḍa.
Koskabale-ela.—Masonry repairs and blasting along the channel.
Kirindiwela-ela.—Blasting of rocks along channel.
Pokunuwatuwela-ela.— Do.
Danḍudambuldeniya tank.—Masonry walls with two sluice gates. An ancient tank now abandoned.
Pallewela-ela, Dowita-ela, Karagahapatana-ela, Kabulane-ela, Rukattana-ela, Tibboṭuliyadde-ela, Kinagaha-ela, Naye-ela, Doḍangahawatta-ela, Nárangahawatta-ela, Galpotte ela, Tepuwaka-ela, Męda ela in Hapugastaláwa, Hatarakóraléyáye-ela, Moragahamule-ela, Mahakumbura-ela, Panwatta-ela, Gaṇkewala-ela, Angalewela-ela, Galkoṭuwe-ela, Labuwe ela, Kovilhéna-ela, Galanatuwe ela, Hapugastęnna-ela, Otalawe-ela, Gankewela Má-ela, Migaswela-ela, Doḍantaláwe-ela, Udadeniya-ela, Uḍugabbala-ela, Yaṭigabbala-ela, Kaḍadorawela-ela, Banagala-ela.—Blasting of rocks along the channel.

Other Works.

New police station at Nuwara Eliya.
Bridle road from Rahatungoda cart road to Gannęwe kóralé through Welaganwęwa and Bambaragama.
Bridle road from Rookwood to top of Ramboḍa pass.
General Cemetery, Nuwara Eliya.

WORKS IN PROGRESS OR CONTEMPLATION.

The public works now in progress or contemplation that will confer the greatest benefit on the District are the Haputalé Railway Extension, the completion of the two channels on either side of the Bilihul-oya near Paḍiyapęlęlla, and the completion of the Má-ela scheme.

Although the Haputalé Railway Extension will be of the greatest direct utility to the Uva Province, it will indirectly confer a very great benefit on this District from the great extent of waste and uncultivated land that it will open up. Almost from the present terminus of the railway until the end of the new extension at the Haputalé pass the line will pass through a long unbroken extent of unoccupied Crown forest and patana land, and when this is opened up and cultivated—as most of it must be when the railway passes through it—the benefit to the District will be great. There is no reason why the valley on the Dimbula side of Middle Camp should not become a second Nuwara Eliya. It is as well sheltered, it has a fine river running through it, and it is one of the most beautiful places in the hills of Ceylon.

I have in previous reports pointed out the advantages of the Bilihul-oya channels and of the Má-ela schemes. The work on them is now being taken in hand, the headworks on the Bilihul-oya are nearly complete, and the channels are being constructed. The headworks of the Má-ela will be taken up this year, an estimate of Rs. 2,330 having been sanctioned for it.

Works undertaken during the Year.

The following is a list of works taken up during the year under review :—

Irrigation.

Uda Méwáheta.

Bodi-ela, Wáḍuawela-ela.—Headworks.
Amunawela-ela.—Masonry works and blasting.
Boraluwe-ela.—Repairs to the channel.
Mapanawatura-ela.—Masonry works and blasting.
Unantęnna Uḍa-ela.—Masonry repairs and blasting.

Arawe-ęla, Ulmolliya-ęla, Andawela-ęla, Unantennapallo-ęla, Hukpęllassemá-ęla, Dunukearawe-ęla, Yatale-ęla, Delpatkaḍa-ęla, Moragollé-ęla, Hurihéwella-ęla, Dehipemaha-ęla, Banḍára-amuna-ęla, Toṭapolgáwa-ęla, Banḍára Amuna-ęla II., Attanakumburapalé-ęla.—Blasting and masonry.

Walapané.

Kuḍugollé-ęla, Diyagedume-ęla, Kumbukwala-ęla, Dimbulkumbura-ęla, Máussawe-ęla, Galane-ęla, Waḍu-ęla, Weręlle-ęla, Boattapiṭiya-ęla.—Blasting and masonry.

Kotmalé.

Agalé-ęla, Gane-ęla, Miyanihe-ęla, Egodanela-ęla, Metiyabittarapelé-ęla, Kurumenikaté-ęla, Kerawalamana-ęla, Koholdeniya-ęla, Halyálé-ęla, Talwé-ęla, Goḍapoladeniya-ęla, Ratmęṭiyapalle-ęla, Kumbaloluwe Má-ęla, Mákandura-ęla, Kalu-oya-ęla, Hurigaskotuwa-ęla, Nalumankaḍa-ęla, Tepuwaka-ęla, Panangammana Uḍa-ęla, Pahalawela-ęla, Galpotewela-ęla, Uḍapitiráwé-ęla, Galkotuwé-ęla, Kosgolla-ęla, Nágaha-ęla, Pokunawatte-ęla, Mahippola-ęla, Jawara-ęla, Ganekumbura-ęla.—Blasting and masonry.

Hapugastaláwé tank.—Building of a bund with a sluice gate.

Uḍama-ęla.—Masonry repairs to channel and blasting.

Other Works.

Nuwara Eliya waterworks.

Bridge over the Kotmalé river at Halveltota.

Bridge over the Bilihul-oya at Rambukpota.

Bridge over the Ampiti oya at Maturaṭa.

New resthouse at Pattipola on the Blackpool to Haputalé bridle road.

PLANS FOR IMPROVEMENT OF DISTRICT.

One of the most promising schemes that have as yet been suggested to me is the restoration of the Waluganwęwa. This is an old tank which, if repaired, would hold up about 10 acres of water; with a head of 25 to 30 ft. it would give a constant supply to fields that, in weather such as we have had during the beginning of this year, were dying in every direction for want of water; it would enable the fields under it to be cultivated twice a year; and it would serve to irrigate some 200 to 300 acres of additional land, private and Crown.

It is situated in Walalawela village, just above the Hanguranketa road at the 17th milepost, and was originally formed by running a bund, about 100 yards long and 30 or 40 ft. high, across the bottom of a deep valley. This bund has been breached to the extent of about 100 ft., and the bed of the tank has now been converted into paddy fields.

It would not be difficult to repair this breach, or even to raise the bund, and so hold up more water; and there is ample water flowing into the tank during the wet season to fill it, and being very deep in proportion to its area there would not be much loss by evaporation. Perhaps a better plan would be to construct a higher and narrower bund, or rather a masonry dam across the valley, lower down, so as to extend the area of the tank and its head of water.

It would, of course, be necessary to compensate the people—about twenty—who own the land in the bed of the tank; but this would not cost much, as the fields are not worth more than £10 to £15 an acre.

They would no doubt strenuously oppose being turned out of their lands; but it is a case of the good of the many against the wishes of the few, and they could further be given land under the tank to cultivate in addition to a money recompense.

It has the further advantage that if the Walalawęlawęwa is made, as recommended by me, just below it, on the lower side of the road, its spillwater could be utilised to keep up the supply of the lower tank, and so add still more to the irrigation advantages of the district, and that such advantages should be utilised to the utmost cannot be better demonstrated than by the late drought and the danger which at one time was everyday becoming more serious of a great scarcity of food in the district.

I may add that this tank was once a portion of the Má-ęla scheme, which in olden days eventually emptied itself into it, and if the Má-ęla is ever completely restored, as I hope some day it may be, its water could be utilised in the same way again.

Government are spending a considerable sum this year on work at and near the head of the Má-ęla; and if this tank is favourably reported on it could be taken up when the Má-ęla work is completed, and, after it, the Walalawęlawęwa, so as to complete the chain.

NEW AREA OPENED UNDER CULTIVATION.

Barley.

I endeavoured during the year to interest the villagers of Uḍa Héwahęṭa and Walapané in the cultivation of barley.

In both these divisions I set apart a few acres of Crown chena land for this product, obtained the seed barley from Mr. Howard, the manager of the Murree Brewery, and promised the cultivators a fixed price of Rs. 3 for all they could produce.

The chenas were cultivated and gave every promise of giving large returns, but the drought at the beginning of this year burnt up the crops, and I doubt if even the seed barley will be recovered. This mishap is not, however, confined to barley cultivation; for all the chena crops in the District have suffered equally from the intense heat and want of rain.

It is my intention to continue the experiment this year in each division of the District, and I trust with happier results.

GRAIN TAX ORDINANCE.

The Grain Tax Ordinance has only been introduced this year into the Uḍa Hęwáhęṭa division, the system of voluntary commutation being in force hitherto.

I am happy to be able to state that I was able to close all the commutation accounts of the year without selling a single field.

SANITARY CONDITION OF PEOPLE, CATTLE, &C.

There was no disease amongst cattle and, with the exception of an outbreak of fever in Walapané in November, the health of the District was good throughout the year.

The outbreak in Walapané was due to the prolonged drought, followed by excessive rains. This was aggravated by the poverty of the people, their consequent physical weakness, and their want of care in the sanitation of their houses and premises.

A special Medical Officer was despatched to the division with a supply of medicines, and with his assistance, and by the distribution of nourishing food to such of the sick as were too poor to get it, the attack was soon overcome.

CRIME.

Excepting in Nuwara Eliya itself, where an audacious robbery was committed at the Grand Hotel, by which Sir Samuel Baker, then on a visit to Nuwara Eliya, lost a quantity of jewellery to the value of something like Rs. 25,000, and two robberies at the Club, there was very little serious crime in the District during the year.

The body of a notorious thief was found in the Kotmalé river under such suspicious circumstances as to lead to the belief that he was murdered, but how, and by whom the crime was committed, if crime it was, has not yet been ascertained.

There were only a few cases of cattle-stealing, the provisions of the Code, by which notorious cattle-stealers can be dealt with as habitual offenders, being rigidly put into force.

TROUT.

I gave details in my report for 1886 of the steps taken by me to introduce trout into the Island. I am glad to say the experiment has been a successful one. There are a considerable number of good-sized trout now in the stream that feeds the Nuwara Eliya lake, and several have been already caught with the fly.

The growth of the young trout has been rapid, and there are many now of half a pound weight in the stream, showing that the climate and feeding agree with them.

The question now to be solved is, whether or not they will breed : but I have small doubt on the point. It will no doubt be necessary to keep up the stock for the next year or two, and with this object I have just obtained another lot of ova from home, and have made arrangements for a further supply next year.

MAHSEER.

I was further able during the year, by the kindness of the Hon. H. S. Thomas, of the Madras Civil Service, to procure some fry of the Indian mahseer from the Bawani river in the Madras Presidency. Mr. Thomas, at great trouble and expense, sent me twenty-four fry, of which twenty-two reached Nuwara Eliya safely on May 16, 1887, and were turned into the Barrack Plains lake. These fish run up to fifty pounds and more ; and if they thrive and multiply—as I have every hope they may—they will be a great addition to our stock of food, besides giving splendid sport to fishermen.

CELEBRATION OF HER MAJESTY'S JUBILEE.

The great event of the year was the celebration of Her Majesty's Jubilee. There were actually two celebrations in this District : one on June 28, in common with other places in the Island, and the other on September 17, in Nuwara Eliya itself.

The utmost enthusiasm prevailed on both occasions, and all the inhabitants of the District joined most heartily and loyally in making the event a successful and memorable one.

The Nuwara Eliya Waterworks, presented by myself as a gift to the town, were opened on the second occasion.

I annex a selection from my diaries for the year.

C. J. R. LE MESURIER,
Acting Assistant Government Agent.

Extracts from Diary.

January 28.—Inspected the Uḍa-ela in Unantenna. This is an important channel irrigating about 50 amunams, and that could be made to asweddumise about 30 or 40 more. It is about 3 miles long, and is, so far as the work that can be done by the villagers is concerned, in good order. It however requires permanent repair in several places.

The villagers complain most of all of the difficulty they experience with the amuna. This is made in the usual native fashion of stones and sticks and straw, right across the Má-oya, a distance of about 180 ft. It is constantly being washed away, as the stream is often in flood and rises very rapidly. I am afraid a permanent anicut would cost a large sum of money, and would seriously diminish the supply of water to elas lower down the oya, and I cannot therefore recommend it ; but, on the other hand, I think the other repairs to the ela should be taken in hand by Government. Close to the head a 30-ft. masonry wall should be built, and further down two short walls of 3 ft. About ¼ mile from the head the channel disappears in a huge rock, and comes out again down a steep precipice, where about 75 ft. more of a masonry wall is required. Ten paces lower down a rock should be removed and another wall of 10 ft. constructed. At Galennalanga about 100 ft. of masonry wall and about 50 blasts are required. With the exception of a few rocks here and there nothing further is wanted until a masonry aqueduct constructed by the villagers across the Uḍawelakandura is reached, and here some leaks want filling up.

The works I have recommended will, I estimate, cost about Rs. 2,000, but in view of the importance of the ela and the extent it irrigates, I do not think this would be too much to spend on it ; and I have very little doubt that if the channel is made to keep up all the water that is diverted into it by the village amuna, an extent of 20 to 30 acres more could be asweddumised by it.

I next inspected Palle-ela in the same village, lower down the same oya. It is about 2 miles in length, and irrigates about 25 amunams in good order.

At the head a channel has been cut for about 50 yards in the face of a solid rock. For villagers this is a really good piece of work. The channel is, however, not quite wide enough, and should be repaired here and there with masonry. Beyond this some iron gutterings should be put up for about 12 ft. across a gap. The villagers use kitul spouting now, but this is constantly broken down and washed away. About 10 paces lower down a low masonry

wall should be built for about 50 ft. or so, and further down, where the channel leaks very badly, I would suggest two or three rows of coffee spouting fixed into a small tank to carry the water over the weak places—distance about 60 ft. Fifty paces further a rock should be removed, and about 300 yards below this some more spouting is required.

I would not do all this at once, as it may be found that with the repairs suggested close to the head the channel will carry enough water for all the fields.

I estimate the cost of these latter at Rs. 100, for which sum I would undertake to have them done.

Took much longer over these çlas than I anticipated when I started in the morning, and did not get back until 4 P.M.

I meant to have gone in the afternoon to see the site of a proposed tank at Mallulla, but have not the time, and must postpone it for my next circuit here.

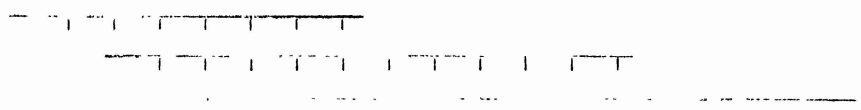
Selected a candidate for the vacant árachchiship of Wégama, and began inquiry *re* the land I inspected yesterday. Postponed it to make inquiry into the genuineness of an old deed produced by the claimant.

January 29.—To Rikilgasgoḍa and thence by the short cut *viâ* Makuruppe to Muṇwatta. Some elephants have destroyed the two wooden culverts at Nilapiṭiya. Ordered the Bógamuwa árachchi to spend Rs. 10 in repairing them, and he and the árachchi es of Palléwela and Muṇwatta are to keep this short cut in order this year for Rs. 10 a piece.

Saw the route of the proposed new road from Bódimalkada to Palléwela. This would no doubt be a great convenience to the villagers, and save the long round by Rikilgasgoḍa, and it could be made very easily. I will ask the Raṭémahatmayá to let me have an estimate of the cost of cutting it.

Examined the Bilhul oya for some distance at Rambukpota to find a site for a bridge here. This bridge has been asked for by the villagers many a time, and has been as often recommended by my predecessors and myself. I am in hopes that the Provincial Road Committee will vote the sum required for it out of the large resthouse balance they have in their hands for this District, and which until March last they were wasting on the extension of the Kurundu oya road. The best place to cross the oya is just below the forest, where a neck of land divides the stream into two parts, and where two small wire bridges could be put up for Rs. 600 or Rs. 700 a piece. The span of each would not be more than 50 ft., and there are large rocks on either side above high-water mark to which they could be fixed.

Breakfasted at Munwatta and then inspected the Ilukpçlessa Maha-çla. It is taken from the Andá-oya, and is about a mile long. It irrigates about 20 amunams, cultivated for the most part only once a year. It is for its length one of the most remarkable of the channels I have seen in this District, and the work done on it by the villagers deserves the greatest praise. The dam is situated high up amongst the rocks above the Munwatta precipice, and the outer bank of the channel has been literally built up for from 200 to 300 yards of loose stones and earth and straw in a wonderful way between the amuna and the first stretch of fields. In one place there are three channels, one under the other to save the leakage,—thus



The way in which every inch of ground has been utilised for cultivation amongst these rocks close to the head is a wonderful instance of the ingenuity and perseverance of the people where their paddy crops are concerned.

There is a considerable amount of blasting required along the first quarter mile, and a few gutters where the leakage is bad here and there would be an improvement. A masonry wall of about 75 ft. and some blasting are wanted at Diawature-çla, while beyond this and about half a mile from the head seven rocks that obstruct the channel should be removed.

Before constructing any masonry I would see what the effect of the blasting is, as I believe the channel would then carry enough water for the fields. This could be done for Rs. 100. The amuna, I forgot to mention, is a natural one.

Next inspected the Andáwela-çla, about a mile long, on the other side and lower down. It irrigates 50 amunams, cultivated twice a year. A masonry wall should be built at the head, not as a dam, but to carry the water without leakage just after it enters the çla, 45 ft. long. Another small wall is wanted at 30 paces from this, 10 ft. long, and another at 190 paces, 4 ft. long. At 122, 131, 138, and 150, rocks should be removed. Also at 219 and 340. I estimate the cost of this at Rs. 150, for which I would undertake to get it done.

Next inspected the Munwatta-çla, taken from the Koppé-oya, half a mile long, irrigating 22 amunams, of which 10 acres cultivated twice a year. This çla is in good order, and only wants a few rocks removed at and near the head. Estimated cost, Rs. 10.

Next inspected the Munwatta school. A fair attendance (35) and a bright intelligent lot of boys.

On my way to Maturaṭa passed the Gaṇsabháwa, and sat with the president for about an hour. Mr. Andarawęwa takes great pains with his cases, and I am very pleased with the way in which he performs his duties in the Village Tribunal and the District.

Reached Maturaṭa at 7 P.M. I forgot to record that at Maturaṭa the villagers asked me to get a culvert made under the high road for a channel that was in existence ("Palamalaṇga-çla") before the road was made, and which was blocked up by the road.

It used to irrigate six pelás of land, now cultivated, when the water-supply is ample, by the Ilukpelassa-çla.

They say they petitioned about it when the çla was first blocked, but never got any reply.

May 10.—Examined an irrigation scheme proposed by Mr. Vine, to make use of the water of two oyas, the Dewatura-oya and the Dawakinde-oya, that are now running to waste near Ramboḍa, to asweddumise some 300 acres of land under the Pusçlláwa Ramboḍa road.

I think the scheme an excellent one, provided it would not be costly. It would bring a large quantity of now unused land under cultivation, and thus add materially to the prosperity of the District.

Much of this land is private that would probably be at once cultivated, and there are about 50 or 60 acres of Crown land that should be given on permits to asweddumise to unfortunates who have lost their own fields by default sales.

There are no çlas lower down these two oyas that would be injuriously affected by the proposed scheme.

I think myself the çla should connect three oyas: the Dewatura, the Dewakinda, and the Gęranḍi-oya. Mr. Vine himself speaks of connecting the first and third, but as the second lies between them, and he has placed the third at the 33rd milestone, he has evidently made a mistake in the names, as it is the second that runs by the 33rd milestone, the third running close to the 31½ mile.

There are two çlas lower down that are supplied by the Gęranḍi-oya, but these would not be injured by the scheme, but, on the contrary, assisted, as they lie in the same tract and would receive a larger and more constant supply than they have now from the proposed channel, even if the latter did not, as is probable, take that place altogether in the irrigation of the fields they now supply.

Examined a scheme proposed by the villagers of Niyangandora to bring water through Kumbaloluwa to Niyangandora from the Pundalu-oya. This çla they say existed in olden times, but fell into disuse as the streams through the village from the hills above were found to be sufficient for their fields. At present, from the denudation of the forests along the hillsides for estate purposes, these streams become almost dried up at some seasons of the year and are not enough for the existing fields. The villagers therefore ask that the old çla may be restored. If this were done it would give them ample water for both Kumbaloluwa and Niyangandora existing fields, and enable them to asweddumise about 40 or 50 acres of new land. The channel would be about three miles long, and would certainly be a costly work, but if the estimated cost be within reason, I would recommend its adoption, as the villagers deserve some compensation for the loss of water, owing to lands above them being sold by Government and opened as estates.

There are no ela lower down the Pundalu-oya that would be affected by the proposed new channel. I will therefore recommend the scheme for examination and report.

Told the Raṭemahatmayá to put up a culvert over the Koskabalé-ela where it crosses the minor road at Dipégoḍa, so as to prevent the bank of the ela from being washed away or broken down by cattle crossing it at this point.

Inspected the Maha-ela from the Mipané-oya in Kumbaloluwa. Irrigates about 20 amunams; in fair order; five rocks to be removed at Galkeṭiyáwatta, and five at Viháwatta-ela, Velóhéna, Miyagahapatana, Waljambugahagawa, and at Pusselkeṭiya, and just before the dam is reached. The amuna is a natural one, and should not be touched. I estimate the cost of this work at Rs. 50, of which I will allow the Raṭémahatmayá Rs. 20 to begin work with from my irrigation fund.

Inspected the Kerewellamané-ela close to Pundalu-oya. Irrigates 7 amunams; in very bad order. I warned the Ela-vidáné that he would be dismissed if at the Raṭémahatmayá's or my next inspection the ela was not as it should be.

There is not much required here except at the head, where the channel should be straightened and the roots of a large dead tree taken out. Cost, about Rs. 10, which I told Raṭémahatmayá he might spend at once.

Stopped the night at Dunsinane.

May 27.—A very curious natural phenomenon to be observed now in Nuwara Eliya. The banks of the lake are covered with dead rats. They have come down by thousands from the jungle to die close to the water. The natives say it is from eating the nillu seed.

July 1.—Went on to Kurundu-oya. I have met during this circuit, whether by accident or design I cannot say, more than my usual number of destitutes,—villagers that have lost all their lands and are now vagabonds in the District. Their story is usually the same, and it is somewhat as follows:—

The Assistant Government Agent meets a sickly-looking man and woman and small child on the lower Badulla road, lying down by the jungle edge, and speaks to them:—

Q.—Who are you?

A.—We are people of Walapané.

Q.—Why have you left your village?

A.—Because we have lost all our property.

Q.—How did that happen?

A.—We were allowed to run into arrears with our paddy tax for two or three years. It was then called up all of a sudden. No mercy was shown us, and all our property was sold.*

Q.—What are you doing now?

A.—We are in search of employment and means of livelihood.

Q.—Where are you going to?

A.—Nowhere in particular.

Q.—Why do you not go and work on a tea or coffee estate?

A.—We have tried this, but we never got anything for our work; all our earnings were taken by our kangani "for debts" he said. It is "debt," always "debt," with us, &c.

July 6.—Inspected a very curious fissure in a hill over Fort MacDonald, in the Province of Uva. It has been formed by the ground slipping away from underneath a quartz reef, and leaving a passage like an old mining shaft. In some places it is roomy, in others you can barely squeeze along it. My own idea is that it was once an underground stream, and that it goes right through the hill. I went down 400 ft., measured with a ball of twine, and was then stopped by the passage becoming too narrow.

November 3.—To Kalapiṭiya, Kotmalé. It has struck me more than once when in this part of the District that a good irrigation scheme could be made by a channel from the Hinmal-oya to irrigate the large extent of Crown and private land that lies opposite the Medakumbura estate. Much of this land is now in the hands of the Ceylon Company, Limited, but about 400 to 500 acres still belong to the Crown.* The tract is called Berawane, and a great deal of it could be asweddumised easily enough. The oya never runs dry. The country does not at first glance present any particular difficulty, and there is an ample population to be benefited by the scheme.

I will make further inquiry in *re*, and if the scheme seems feasible will ask for a report from the Public Works Department.

December 20.—Received information of a plot amongst a batch of prisoners lately come up from Colombo for work in connection with Queen's Cottage grounds, to assault me at the working party and escape from the jail, because they did not like working in this rainy weather.

December 21.—Arrested the ringleaders of this plot at the working party itself, marched them off to the jail, tried and punished them there and then. I thought it best to treat the matter in this sharp and summary manner than to risk the consequences of the delay and fuss involved in getting up visitors specially to try the matter.

December 31.—I noticed some time ago that a surveyor was at work trying to get a trace which shall take the spillwater of the Nuwara Eliya lake into the proposed Mipilimane reservoir.

I doubt the feasibility of this work except at enormous cost in cutting through the hill between the Elk Plains and the Mipilimane patana, even supposing this water is available for the purpose; and considering how the Kotmalé villages suffer occasionally from want of water, I am not at present disposed to acquiesce in any scheme that would divert into Uva the water now flowing into the Dimbula valley and thence to Kotmalé. It would be better, I think, to see if it is not possible to divert the stream that rises on the other side of the reservoir into it, to commence with, but my own idea is that there is quite enough water already in the stream that runs through this patana to keep the reservoir full at all times, especially during the south-west monsoon, when water is so scarce in the Uva District, as witness the case of the Barrack Plains reservoir, the sluice of which has, I believe, never yet been opened for irrigation purposes.

Besides this Mipilimane scheme there is what I think has the making of a very fine scheme in it for the benefit of the Province of Uva, about a mile on this side of Pattipola, between it and Middle Camp, about 12 miles from Nuwara Eliya. This is the Yóḍa-ela. By putting up a dam where the sides of a valley converge very closely to each other, and cutting through a narrow strip of the hill on the Uva side, a very large quantity of water could be stored, and an outlet given to it towards Ambawela and the fields below.

The scheme is worth examination, and I hope it will be taken up some day.

REPORT ON THE MÁTALÉ DISTRICT FOR 1887.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

As to revenue, there is a satisfactory increase under the head *Land Sales* of Rs. 3,219·81, pointing to a larger demand for land for planting purposes. There will without doubt be a still further increase under this head in 1888. The increase of Rs. 661·76 under the head *Tolls* is also a satisfactory sign. The decrease under the head *Postage including Stamps* is due to the fact that

* This is strictly true. The people were allowed to run into arrears, because it was felt that the tax was such a heavy one; then a lenient form of recovery was adopted, *i. e.*, my plan of recovery by degrees; then all of a sudden Government turned round, reversed their previous decision, and sold up the fields wholesale.

the postmasters are now supplied with postage stamps direct from the General Post Office. The net increase of revenue is Rs. 1,588·91.

As regards expenditure, the increase under the head *Provisional Salaries* and the decrease under the head *Administration of Justice* are due almost entirely to the transference of the pay of Presidents of Gansabháwas from the latter to the former heading. The net increase of expenditure for 1887 is Rs. 1,158·68.

I.—FOOD SUPPLY.

The statistics as to the food required by an adult on an average in a month, given by Mr. Moysey in his Administration Report for 1886, may be taken as representing the state of affairs in this District in normal times. They are as follows :—

Article of Food.	Mátalé South.		Mátalé East.		Mátalé North.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c.
Rice	1 bushel	4 0	½ bushel	1 60	12 quarts	1 50
Kurakkan	—	—	¼ "	0 25	22 "	0 93
Salt	1 quart	0 12	2 quarts	0 22	2 "	0 25
Cocoanuts	15 nuts	0 50	15 nuts	0 60	8 nuts	0 32
Oil	1 pint	0 18	½ pint	0 9	1 pint	0 25
Saffron	¼ lb.	0 3	½ lb.	0 6	¼ lb.	0 5
Chillies	2 lb.	0 31	1 lb.	0 15		
Onions	1 lb.	0 5	1 lb.	0 4		
Maldive fish	—	0 50	½ lb.	0 10	—	0 25
Dry fish			—	0 25		
Vegetables	—	—	—	0 25		
Total Value ...	—	3 69	—	3 61	—	3 55

But 1887 was a peculiarly dry year, and all the three divisions of the District suffered severely from the drought. The paddy crops were a failure in Mátalé north and east, and very short in Mátalé south, and the kurakkan crops were still more unsatisfactory. This failure of the two principal staples of food was much more seriously felt in the northern and eastern than in the southern divisions ; for in the last-named section, owing to the proximity of the railway and of European estates employing Sinhalese labour, and to the larger proportion of good garden land, there are many additional ways of making a little money and so procuring the necessaries of life, which are impossible in the case of the inhabitants of the more distant divisions. But when once the irrigation of Mátalé north and east has been properly attended to, the position of affairs, as regards paddy at least, will be slightly reversed ; for Mátalé south trusts for its water supply to small elas and hill streams which dry up very quickly in such a drought as that of the past year, while the restoration of the tanks and anicuts in the north and east will provide them with a far more permanent and trustworthy supply of water.

Besides the drought and the usual ravages of flies there was another cause for the shortness of the paddy crops, viz., the outbreak in several places of the disease known as "kara-edima," which is to be detected by the turning white of the main shoot of the paddy plant, due to the presence inside the shoot of a very small grub which eats the heart out of the shoot. As this disease breaks out on land which has been properly manured, it is probably due to something beyond mere poorness of soil. Possibly it is caused by the want of a change of seed-paddy—a change which it is very difficult to persuade Kandyan villagers to adopt, as it is "contrary to custom," but which should be urged upon them as strongly as possible. It probably would also be highly beneficial to the fields if a different kind of paddy were cultivated from time to time. As it is, the fields which were cultivated with "hondarawala" twenty years ago are cultivated with "hondarawala" still ; and though it may be to a certain extent true, on the one hand, that the cultivator knows much more about his fields and their requirements than anyone else, and that it is a mistake to interfere with him, yet, on the other, modern science could teach him a great deal about the chemical composition of soils, the rotation of crops, &c., which would naturally be as useful to him as it has been to the English farmer.

Mátalé south produces all the usual garden produce abundantly, and there is no doubt that a very large proportion of the native gardens will grow cacao and tea with success ; the former being in some ways the more adapted to native habits, as it does not involve the cutting down of the cocoanut trees, arecanuts, and plantains, but flourishes under their shade. The native coffee shows no signs of reviving, which makes it the more important to continue during 1888 the efforts that have been made during 1887 to introduce some knowledge of cacao planting and its advantages among the villagers. On the chena lands, too, kurakkan is not the only grain cultivated, but sometimes gives place to menéri, amu, tana, tala, iringu, &c. In the north and east the state of affairs is far less promising : good garden land is very rare, and the people hardly seem to be aware that there is any other kind of grain capable of being grown on chenas besides kurakkan. It is interesting to notice, however, that the cultivation of iringu as a change from kurakkan is just commencing in so distant a part as Laggala Pallésiyapattu, a knowledge of that excellent grain having crept over the borders from the Uva District. A great deal might be done to improve chena cultivation if efficient steps were taken to disseminate among the villagers some information concerning the many excellent food products that could be grown on chena lands, kanattas, ówitas, &c. A great deal can be done in this direction by local agricultural shows ; and Government would materially aid in this invaluable work if it were to offer a prize for the best (*i. e.*, the most appropriate) essay on the subject, and distribute the essay gratis among the people. Kurakkan cultivation has perhaps been abused even beyond its deserts, but it appears to be a fact that out of many similar products it provides the least satisfactory food of all ; and it certainly causes a far greater denudation of land, inasmuch as the same soil will not bear a kurakkan crop more than once in six years, while with other similar products the necessary interval does not exceed three years.

II.—CHANGES IN LEGISLATION.*

(1).—*Procedure Code.*

(1) According to the Indian Procedure Code all cases are divided into summons cases and warrant cases, the latter being those which relate to offences punishable with death, transportation, or imprisonment for a term exceeding six months, and the former being those which relate to offences not so punishable.

By section 242 of the Indian Procedure Code, on the trial of summons cases "the particulars of the offence of which the party charged is accused shall be stated to him," and he shall be asked "if he has any cause to show why he should not be convicted," but it shall not be necessary to frame a formal charge.

This clause has been bodily transferred into the Ceylon Procedure Code (*vide* section 221), and if the Police Magistrate was permitted to do what the Magistrate in India is authorised to do, viz., to hear the evidence and decide the case forthwith, there would be no cause for complaint. But the Ceylon Code insists that after the evidence has been taken a formal charge shall be framed and a statement from the prisoner shall be taken, &c., and that after all this the evidence for the accused shall be taken (if any), and the court shall then convict or acquit. Now, this framing of the formal charge and the calling upon the accused to plead to it, is a proceeding which, under the Indian Code (sections 254 and 255), applies *only* to warrant cases. It is not easy to understand why these two distinct proceedings have been amalgamated in the Ceylon Code. The result of the amalgamation is, that it entails upon a Magistrate an expenditure of time that might be more usefully devoted to the current work of the day. Suppose a Police Court has fifteen cases a day, including "charge sheet" cases. It is easy to see what an amount of time will have to be spent in recording in each of these that "the particulars of the offences are stated to the accused," and he is asked whether he has any cause to show why he should not be convicted, and, after recording that the accused has cause to show, in proceeding to hear the witnesses for the prosecution, framing a charge against the accused, taking his statement, examining him if necessary, and appending to the statement and examination the certificates prescribed by the Code. Surely this is a waste of labour and time for which there can be no justification beyond the fact that the Code requires it.

(2) Under the Indian Procedure Code there is provision made for summary trials of minor offences (*e. g.*, mischief, receiving stolen property, offences relating to weights and measures, &c.). In these cases a Magistrate of the first or second class (see section 355), instead of recording the evidence at full length, is allowed to record "the substance of the evidence of each witness as the examination of the witness proceeds." Some such provision might be very usefully introduced into the Ceylon Code in respect of petty offences. As the Code now stands, in every case of disorderly conduct, obscene words, street brawls, &c., the Magistrate has not only to record the evidence at full length, but to call upon the accused to plead twice, &c.

(3) By the Indian Procedure Code, in cases where there is no appeal there is no need for recording all the evidence or for framing a charge (see section 263). This provision might be introduced into the Ceylon Code with advantage.

All the three changes above advocated tend towards the simplifying and shortening of judicial procedure in minor cases; and there is no need to dwell upon the desirability of making procedure as summary as is consistent with true justice. If such provisions are found to work well in India there is every reason to suppose that they would work well in Ceylon; nor is there any obvious explanation of their omission from the Ceylon Code.

(2).—*Cattle Stealing.*

By clause 16 of the Ceylon Procedure Code a Police Court can pass no sentence of whipping unless the offender is under sixteen years of age. Now, in cases of theft of cattle the Police Court has no jurisdiction if the value of the animal or animals stolen exceeds Rs. 50. Hence, if a villager loses three animals of the value of Rs. 15 each, and the thieves are committed before a Police Court, the Magistrate has no power to pass a sentence of whipping—the punishment to which the thieves are liable under clause 368 of the Penal Code; whereas, if the same men stole a Coast bull of the value of Rs. 51, they would become liable to a sentence of whipping if convicted before a District Court. Now, inasmuch as most of the cases of cattle-stealing consist of thefts of Sinhalese village cattle, the thieves on conviction escape the sentence of whipping, which alone can have a deterrent effect on so prevalent and ruinous a crime. Safeguards against the hasty or inconsiderate infliction of such a penalty would still exist in an appeal to the Supreme Court, or in the necessity for obtaining the sanction of the Governor to the sentence.

(3).—*Illicit Drawing and Selling of Toddy.*

This is a crying evil in this District, and will probably remain so more or less until some alteration is made in the conditions of the sale of the arrack and toddy rents. Without going into this large question, it is obvious that the recent alteration in the law does not adequately meet the necessities of the case, though there is reason to think that it has done something to check the offence. But as the law stands at present, the well-to-do villager, who does a good business in toddy, is, of all offenders, the best able to pay a fine and escape rigorous imprisonment, while the poor man or woman who makes it his or her means of living is the one that suffers. Were the punishment changed into *either* a fine or rigorous imprisonment at the discretion of the Magistrate, there would be far more likelihood of the offence being suppressed.

(4).—*Thefts of Prædial Produce.*

By Ordinance No. 9 of 1885 a sentence of whipping can be passed on an offender found in the possession of unripe coffee, cacao, arecanuts, &c., without being able to account satisfactorily for such possession. The penalty might well be extended to similar possession of ripe produce.

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* In the remarks under this heading the Police Magistrate of Mátalé has collaborated.

(5).—*Maintenance.*

The law on this subject has been unsettled by recent decisions, and some fresh legislation is necessary to prevent the evil results of cruel desertion. In a great many cases notice of marriage only is given, but the marriage is not eventually registered. Consequently, the husband, after living for a considerable time with his wife, deserts her with impunity, for the woman can claim no maintenance. It might be advisable to enact that, on satisfactory proof being given of residence together for a certain time, say ten months, the man should become liable to give maintenance to the woman and to the offspring of such cohabitation.

Further, in D. C. Negombo 52,216, 5 S. C. C. 233, there is an *obiter dictum* of Burnside, C.J., which, if upheld by the Supreme Court, will certainly make desertion and its accompaniments of pauperism, bastardy, and vice, infinitely more common. Desertion has hitherto been held to be a continuing offence, making a person committing it amenable to enhanced punishment each time he is found guilty, lashes being the last penalty in the scale. But the Chief Justice (Burnside) seems to be of opinion that if a man is once convicted of desertion (the punishment for which is a fortnight's imprisonment at the outside) he can plead that conviction as a bar against a second charge on the same state of facts. The results of such a change in the interpretation of the law (should this be affirmatively held to be the ruling on sub-section 2 of clause 3 of Ordinance No. 4 of 1841) are too obvious to need dwelling upon.

Finally, in 1880 Justice Clarence held that an infant two or three months old was entitled to receive maintenance from its father. (See 3 S. C. C. 140.) This was upheld by Chief Justice Cayley in the same year. (3 S. C. C. 148.)

In 1884 Burnside, C.J., and Lawrie, J., *dissentiente* Dias, J., held that the father of a child could not be held criminally liable for not maintaining the child so long as the child required no other nourishment than that derived from the mother. The consequence of the new ruling is, as Mr. Justice Dias pointed out, that the father may shift the onus of maintaining the child upon the mother at a time when she may require more assistance from the father than at any other time. Whichever may be the correct interpretation of the law, it is earnestly to be hoped that fresh legislation on the subject will protect the interests of the mother. The Police Magistrate of this station writes on the subject :—

Following the latest ruling, I have had to reject plaint after plaint of women carrying infants in arms ; and it was heart-rending to see the distress of these poverty-stricken mothers sent away utterly hopeless to drag out a miserable existence in their villages, while the men who wronged them were not only enjoying the most perfect immunity from punishment, but were actually keeping other women, whose turn it would probably be to suffer in like manner. A woman was brought up before me a little while ago charged with attempted suicide. A neighbour saw her just in time to save her. Her answer to the charge was that there was no use in living, as her husband had deserted her, leaving her with a baby only a few months old, which she had no means of bringing up and could not obtain maintenance for.

III.—WORKS MOST REQUIRED.

(1) An outlet for Mátalé east. The necessity for this was repeatedly and ably urged by Mr. Moysey, who pointed out the only line that a cart road could possibly take—viz., from Pallégama to Kalu-gaṇga, from Kalu-gaṇga to Ḷelahera, and so along the cart trace cut last year by Mr. Creasy from Ḷelahera to Náula on the North road. Until such an outlet is given Mátalé east will never have a chance of development. It is a mistake to suppose that the whole of Mátalé east is without resources which would repay the construction of such an outlet. No doubt it contains a good deal of stony, barren land, notably in Laggala Uḍasiyapattu and partly in Gaṇgala Uḍasiyapattu ; but Laggala Pallésiyapattu, especially near the Kalu-gaṇga and in the neighbourhood of Pallégama, is full of promise and capable of producing a variety of products ; but fatal difficulties of transport at present lie in the way.

The work is too large an one to be undertaken by the District Road Committee, whose small income is barely sufficient for existing requirements. An estimate of the cost of the work should be made by the Public Works Department and a vote for it included in next year's estimates.

(2) General survey. The demand for land in this District is rapidly increasing owing to the success which has greeted the tea enterprise in Mátalé and the peculiar suitability of the soil for the cultivation of cacao. But a very serious obstacle in the way of would-be investors lies in the impossibility of getting their applications rapidly attended to and of ascertaining to what lands Government is likely to lay claim, and what amount of validity is likely to be attached to native claims. Government might, with great advantage to all parties concerned, undertake something in the shape of a general survey of those parts of the District (chiefly Mátalé south) where the demand is likely to be keenest. If a sufficient staff of surveyors were employed the work would not take long. Native owners would be able to part with their lands on far better terms, owing to their possession being defined and certain, instead of, as is often the case at present, parting with them at an absurdly low figure because of a doubtful title ; while investors would be encouraged and attracted by the facility of discovering where investment is practicable.

(3) A grant-in-aid road from Rattoṭa to Dankanda. The flourishing estates of Kattaraṭenna, Dankanda, Laggala, &c., have a most insufficient outlet for their produce, and have, besides, to face the difficulties of the ford over the Rattoṭa river, which is quite impracticable in wet weather, and often delays rice supplies as well as the transport of estate produce. The want of a cart road will be increasingly felt as the area under tea enlarges : and there is no doubt that such a road would be carried, though at considerable expense, along part of the old Midlands road, across the river about two miles east of Rattoṭa, and so to Dankanda. An estimate of cost should be made without delay ; and it would then be for the estates to say whether they are prepared to pay a moiety of it.

(4) A grant-in-aid road to connect the end of the present Kandanuwara cart road with the Kabaragala gap *viâ* Dambulagala. This is a still more important work, inasmuch as it would benefit a larger number of estates. The proprietors of Kandanuwara estate would make no objection to the taking over of the Kandanuwara cart road by Government, which would thus acquire a valuable property in good order; and the end part of the road is already practicable for carts. There is only a small piece of intermediate new road to be made. But it is a question whether

the wants of both this and Dankanda district could not be almost as cheaply and far more effectually met by the adoption of some improved tramway system, such as the Lartigue railway.

(5) The Hattoṭa Amuna. This is an old Siṇhalese dam across the Kalu-gaṇga, about two miles from Pallégama, in Laggala Pallésiyapattu. The remains still existing of the ancient anicut and of the channel leading from it show that the work was of great magnitude and importance. It commands a magnificent water supply at a very favourable point; and although it is impossible to accurately estimate the acreage of irrigable land under it, owing to the thickness of the jungle, there is not the slightest doubt that the ground slopes gradually downwards from the dam, and that the irrigable area is amply sufficient to repay cost of construction in a very short time. The villagers in the neighbourhood—and it is by no means thinly populated—are very anxious to have the work taken up, as at present their only permanent water supply is provided by a flimsy stick-dam, quite incapable of dealing effectually with copious flood; and it is earnestly to be hoped that Government will call for an estimate at once and consider the work among the proposals for next year. Given this anicut and the road already referred to under sub-head (1), the whole character of Mátalé east would be changed; and it is high time that something was done for the revival of this neglected district.

(6) Dewahuwa tank. This magnificent tank has already been brought before the notice of the Central Irrigation Board, and the estimate for its repair has been made by the Provincial Engineer. Its existence was hardly known of before the middle of 1887, but its position, its grand water supply, its fine bund, and the enormous stretch of irrigable land under it, have elicited the admiration of all the engineers who have seen it; and it may confidently be hoped that the work of repairing the breach in the bund, of furnishing it with a suitable sluice, and of providing sufficient spill accommodation, will be not only taken in hand but completed before the end of 1889. The irrigable land under it is certainly over 5,000, and probably over 10,000 acres in extent, and there is already a considerable population anxious to take advantage of a certain supply of water.

(7) The widening of the Laggala tavalam road. This trace, which was cut many years ago, but never completed, owing to the failure of coffee, could be made passable for carts at a very moderate cost. It would not only form a most useful outlet for the produce of many promising tea estates on the Laggala side, but would also throw into the market a great deal of excellent tea land and a great deal of valuable timber, which at present it is hardly worth while to touch owing to the immense cost of transport over the trace in its present condition. This work also should be estimated for without delay, as there is every probability that the estates interested will bear their share of the cost.

(8) The work of putting up more permanent culverts in place of the slippery and dangerous wooden bridges on the North road, advocated last year by Mr. Moysey, has already been put in hand: but the road might be still further improved, and a vast amount of wear and tear saved, by two diversions, one at Palapatwala, four miles from Mátalé, and one at Kawuḍupeḷella, nine miles from Mátalé. At both these places there is an extremely steep hill, constantly involving road repair owing to heavy wash and the straining of carts, which might easily be avoided by the diversions alluded to, neither of which would have to be of any great length.

(9) A powder magazine is badly wanted in the proximity of the Public Works office.

(10) An office for the use of Raṭémahatmayás and other leading headmen who come into Mátalé on official business should be built near the kachchéri. The kachchéri buildings are small and grievously overcrowded. As it is there is no place whatever for the principal headmen to wait in, or to transact business in, except the little office allotted to the Native Department clerks, or the kachchéri verandah, and both are highly unfitted for the purpose. A room could easily be erected between the Assistant Government Agent's office and the record-room, costing but little, and adding immensely to the orderliness of the kachchéri and the convenience of native Government servants.

(11) The attention of the Inspector-General of Prisons has been invited to the disgraceful state of the hovel (for it is impossible to call it a house) allotted to the Jailor of the Mátale jail. It is somewhat anomalous that the prisoners should be infinitely better housed than their guardian.

IV.—WORKS IN PROGRESS OR CONTEMPLATION.

(1) The sluicing of those tanks in Kandapola kóralé, which were in May, 1887, selected by Mr. Creasy and the Assistant Government Agent for sluices, is well in hand. Twenty-one of these tanks will be sluiced by the end of August, comprising all the tanks which are undoubtedly worthy of a sluice of the 330-rupee type. The question whether the remaining surveyed tanks should be sluiced or not must depend upon whether there is any probability of the estimate for Dewahuwa being sanctioned. If it is, it will probably be wiser to leave these small tanks alone and allow the population to migrate towards Dewahuwa: if it is not, it will probably be sufficient to provide them with earthenware sluices on the Kurunégala pattern.

There can be no doubt that the sluicing of the twenty-one large tanks above referred to will work a wonderful change in Kandapola kóralé. The people of this kóralé are at present in the lowest depths of poverty, and are brought to the verge of starvation year after year by insufficiency of rainfall rather than by poorness of soil. But they evince a remarkable readiness to work at their bunds and roads under proper direction; and once given the power of storing and properly distributing their water, there is every reason to hope that the kóralé will change from the very poorest into one of the most prosperous divisions of the District.

(2) Two other irrigation works are in course of construction, which will throw about 200 additional acres of paddy land under cultivation, besides greatly improving the resources of the lands now cultivated beneath them: (1) the Nádeniya amuna, near the large village of Akuramboḍa. Nature has here provided more than half the required anicut in the shape of a convenient reef of rocks. The interstices between these are now being filled in, and about 30 ft. of spouting provided, which will enable the villagers to take off water whether in time of drought or of flood. (2) The Awuḍella Amuna. The site of this is a picturesque spot, high on a hill, about one and a half mile from the Nálanda resthouse. The total cost of the work will not exceed Rs. 700, and by obtaining command over an ample water supply at such a height, it will be possible to distribute it over a large range of land.

It is almost impossible at present to form any accurate estimate of the acreage thus treated: it will be easier to obtain reliable figures at the end of 1888. Mátalé possesses advantages which very few other Districts can rival in the shape of splendid soil, a good supply of water-power for machinery purposes, and easy access to firewood, which give every reason to hope that this revival of prosperity is not merely temporary, but will be steadily progressive. Perhaps, however, the best reason of all lies in the proved energy and determined enterprise of the Mátalé planters.

A great deal of new land has been, and is being, opened up for tea planting in the neighbourhood of Mátalé, notably at Ukuwala, Bandárapola, Balakaḍuwa, and Ełkaḍuwa. There is not the slightest doubt that this area of new cultivation would be greatly and rapidly increased, but for the extreme difficulty (alluded to under III. 2) of ascertaining what land is available and what is not. There is hardly a planter in the District from whom complaints have not been received on the subject. It is not that there is the slightest desire to interfere with native rights: it is the utterly unsettled condition of these rights and claims at this critical time which affects detrimentally the interest of claimants and would-be purchasers. Surveys have been received in this kachchéri during 1887 of land applied for in 1879. The mere mention of this fact will show that there is some ground for the complaints of intending investors. The consequence is that there is a strong temptation to buy on doubtful titles without reference to the kachchéri at all, which often has disastrous results for all parties concerned.

The area under cacao is steadily increasing, but more slowly than that under tea, as it is much harder to find suitable land. Every effort is being made to induce the native owners of small gardens in Mátalé south to plant cacao under the shade of their cocoanut trees and plantain trees, where it would flourish excellently; and some satisfactory progress has been made in this direction. But it will be two or three years yet before the natives generally see the advantage of taking to this product in place of their hopeless coffee. A great many of these gardens and a great deal of the chena land in Mátalé would also grow cotton and tobacco plentifully; and it is therefore to be hoped, in the interests of the District, that the Ceylon Spinning and Weaving Company, and the enterprise of Messrs. Meyer and Schâppi—Sumatra tobacco planters, who are anxious to acquire a large grant of land here—will meet with the success they deserve. There is a great deal of land, too, in Laggala Pallésiyapattu (Mátalé east) which is admirably adapted to the cultivation of cotton and tobacco, and probably of cacao and cocoanuts.

XI.—EDUCATION.

There has been a satisfactory improvement in regularity of attendance and numbers attending throughout the year; but it requires constant attention and frequent visits on the part of both the Assistant Government Agent and the principal headmen to ensure this result. A comparative statement of the attendance at some of the principal schools in this District is annexed in proof of this improvement:—

		Dambulla Vernacular Boys' School.	Dúlléwa Vernacular Boys' School.	Kaikáwala Vernacular Boys' School.	Akuramboḍa Vernacular Boys' School.	Palápatwela Vernacular Boys' School.
January ...	1886 ...	30·59	24·84	13·26	30·04	41·14
	1887 ...	40·08	42·43	44·26	73·06	50·86
February ...	1886 ...	26·03	27·45	19·25	50·07	37·05
	1887 ...	39·52	42·97	41·15	67·03	39·76
March ...	1886 ...	22·25	26·05	19·65	68·53	25·01
	1887 ...	40·38	37·22	32·66	69·08	23·75
April ...	1886 ...	26·05	18·05	21·00	77·75	—
	1887 ...	35·03	36·35	19·03	63·07	34·57
May ...	1886 ...	25·91	24·04	16·28	65·45	46·28
	1887 ...	33·08	39·76	32·40	81·14	47·02
June ...	1886 ...	28·31	24·25	19·71	67·33	52·31
	1887 ...	30·04	39·59	39·21	82·84	53·81
July ...	1886 ...	30·54	32·59	35·05	83·54	50·77
	1887 ...	35·25	43·41	41·61	109·88	51·82
August ...	1886 ...	41·11	52·05	58·90	72·15	51·26
	1887 ...	35·06	46·75	80·58	124 00	50·01
September ...	1886 ...	43·05	48·98	41·59	73·03	47·93
	1887 ...	44·10	45·27	63·21	102·00	44·47
October ...	1886 ...	42·93	51·05	42·21	69·05	56·04
	1887 ...	49·35	61·29	68·69	116·05	48·28
November ...	1886 ...	41·18	49·61	43·77	65·24	55·32
	1887 ...	35·76	67 77	61·61	89·42	86·11
December ...	1886 ...	35·06	48·00	44·16	64·04	56·13
	1887 ...	33·27	61·83	69·14	85·67	84·95

New schools have been opened by the Baptist Mission at Rattoṭa and Kawuḍupełella and by Government at Dambulla (for girls). A handsome new school-house with tiled roof and brick pillars has been built during the year at Palapatwela, entirely by the labour and contributions of the villagers, without touching the Gaṇsabháwa funds; a still better one has been built in a similar way at Dúlléwa; a new school-house has been erected at Náula, near the high road, in a much more accessible position than the old one; the school-house at Akuramboḍa has been nearly doubled in size; and the schoolroom at Dambulla has been greatly improved by the insertion of an arch in place of a wall between two of the rooms.

It is contemplated next year to erect a large school building at Yaṭawatta and to start new schools at Kalundáwa, Pallégama, Leliaramba, and other places.

The Wesleyan Mission school at Meda-ela, in Laggala Udasiyapattu, is doing an excellent work, and the schoolmaster and his wife deserve great credit for the way in which they have pushed the school with very little help from outside, have overcome the opposition of the headmen and villagers, and have made their influence for good felt in the surrounding district. It is to be wished that there were more attempts of this kind on the part of Missionary bodies to introduce

education and civilisation into outlying parts, instead of confining their attention to the rivalry of towns.

XII.—GAṆSABHÁWAS.

The annexed tables show the work done by the three Gaṇsabháwas in 1887 and the state of their funds :—

Abstract of Work done by the three Gaṇsabháwas during 1887.

	Mátalé North.	Mátalé East.	Mátalé South.
Number of Cases pending on December 31, 1886	139	19	67
Do. instituted in 1887	2,016	1,775	709
Do. settled amicably	251	449	471
Do. tried ...	1,682	1,324	172
Appeals to Government Agent, affirmed	40	27	15
Do. set aside	9	4	2
Appeals to the Governor, affirmed	1	—	—
Do. set aside	—	—	—

Gaṇsabháwa Fund.

	Mátalé East.		Mátalé North.		Mátalé South.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Balance on December 31, 1886	138	4	712	57	200	75
Credited during the year 1887	900	30	1,016	85	382	93
Expenditure	638	37	979	99	167	40
Balance	399	97	749	43	452	28

The work done by them and their effect upon village life and morals is, on the whole decidedly satisfactory, and will continue to be so so long as each President is determined to set his face against postponements, to preserve the dignity of his court, and to itinerate as widely as possible.

All the Presidents are of opinion that a very small stamp fee should be charged in the case of appeals. There is a good deal to be said on either side. On the one hand, everything that makes complete justice difficult to the villager is to be avoided : on the other hand, the villager gets his complaint inquired into on the spot by a competent and impartial judicial officer; if he wants more than this, he should be called upon to pay, say, five or ten cents, in order that there may be same slight safeguard against appeals made from purely frivolous or vexatious motives. It is high time that the village council of Mátalé south was transformed into a regular Gaṇsabháwa with a separate President. The Raṭémahatmayá of Mátalé south has a great deal of revenue work and travelling to do, and though he does his best to perform the judicial duties now imposed on him in addition, these are increasing so rapidly that a change is imperatively needed.

The work done by the headmen and villagers according to the programme laid down by the village council for the year, has been varied and useful. The following is a resumé of it :—

List of Work done under Gaṇsabháwa Regulations during 1887.

	Mátalé East.	Mátalé North.	Mátalé South.	Total.
Number of roads repaired	66	22	186	274
Number of ambalams repaired	2	1	12	15
Number of wells and spouts repaired	10	6	103	119
Number of édaṇḍas and bridges do.	4	2	7	13
Number of schools do.	1	6	5	12

There is no reason to suppose that these works press at all hardly on the villagers. The arrangement is rather a fair adjustment of public labour than an imposition of new labours ; and the villagers know at the beginning of each year exactly what will be required of them and when it will be required.

XIII.—DISTRICT ROAD COMMITTEE.

A detailed report upon the working of the Road Committee has been sent in separately. The amount of revenue raised in 1887 was Rs. 19,755·23 ; the balance from 1886 was Rs. 2,940·27 ; total Rs. 22,695·50. Of this total, Rs. 19,350·64 were spent, leaving a balance of Rs. 3,344·86 on December 31, 1887. The working of the Ordinance in 1887 shows a satisfactory improvement. There is a marked increase in single-rate payments and a decrease of absentees. The number of exemptions was high, but will be greatly lessened in 1888. The single-rate payments for 1888 showed an advance on 1887, in spite of the extreme poverty that prevails in the northern and parts of the eastern division, owing to the abnormal drought and consequent failure of crops of all kinds.

In place of sending defaulters to jail, a system of labour centres was established towards the the middle of 1887, with very satisfactory results. This system will be still further developed in 1888.

It is hoped that some arrangement will be made during 1888 for the upkeep of native ambalams out of Provincial Road Committee funds. It seems hard that such large sums should be spent upon resthouses solely for the benefit of Europeans, and that they should be provided with every necessity and luxury, while nothing whatever is spent out of the Road Ordinance revenues upon the halting-places of native travellers, which surely have quite as much claim to attention and care. A small sum might easily be spared annually for this purpose at the general apportionment of the revenue.

The Committee are anxious to place the general superintendence of minor works under the care of the District Engineer on a fixed salary, as has been done in the North-Central Province.

XIV.—PRINCIPAL EVENTS.

(1) The jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen was celebrated on May 24, and was successful in every respect with the exception of the weather. Food was distributed gratis to all beggars and poor people who came to apply for it; a religious service in commemoration of the day was held at the same hour by the members of every creed and sect ; every house in the town was decorated ; a procession marched at midday down the whole length of the main street of the town to the large pandal on the esplanade, from which the record of the reign was read in English by the Assistant Agent and in Tamil and Siṇhalese by leading members of those communities, while a salute of fifty

guns was fired and the national flag hoisted. Native games, dances and plays, athletic sports, and a great display of fireworks also formed part of the programme. It may be doubted whether so large a crowd of natives has ever been collected together in Mátalé during recent years; and it is satisfactory to note that there was no disturbance or ill-behaviour of any kind whatever. The success of the commemoration was chiefly due to the zealous co-operation of the members of the local committee and to the ready help of the chiefs and headmen.

(2) In September an Agri-Horticultural Show was for the first time held in Mátalé. A small balance remaining over from the Jubilee Fund was devoted to this object, and was largely supplemented by local subscriptions. The success of the show, which was far greater than could have been expected, was entirely owing to the hearty way in which it was supported by all classes of the community, in many cases at a great sacrifice of valuable time. His Excellency the Governor honoured the show with his presence on the second day, and kindly consented to present the prizes. The object of the show was two-fold: (*a*) to afford instruction to, and raise emulation among, native agriculturists, and introduce to their notice the large number of products which this part of the country can produce, but which are very generally neglected, as much from ignorance as apathy; (*b*) to bring the Mátalé District into prominence and excite competition among the various European estates at a time when the District is just emerging into prosperity from a long period of ruin and depression. As the committee venture to think that these two objects were fairly fulfilled, it has been determined to make the show an annual institution. The financial result of the show was very satisfactory, a balance of Rs. 500 being left in the hands of the committee after paying all expenses. This will form a useful nucleus for the exhibition of 1888.

(3) At the time of the show a game of "aṅkeliya" was played in the Assistant Agent's grounds. This is a very ancient Siṅhalese game of religious origin, but it had nearly died out in this District, not having been played for upwards of forty years. Its revival excited great interest among all the natives of the District, and great crowds assembled to witness the performance. It is intended to revive other games, similarly moribund, at the time of the Siṅhalese new year in 1888, the object being to attract villagers from the more distant parts to come into Mátalé and mix with their fellows, instead of passing year after year in the seclusion and ignorance of their isolated hamlets.

(4) The works at Elahera, commenced in 1886, were for the present completed in June, 1887. To say that they were entrusted to the charge of Mr. Creasy is equivalent to saying that the work done was of the best possible quality. Two large masonry dams were thrown across the Ambangagga and the Kuḍá-gagga respectively, and the irrigation channel leading from the latter anicut was cut and cleared up to the Kongeṭi-oya, which crosses it at right-angles about two and a half miles from the dam. An unfailing supply of water is thus permanently secured, and the fields lying under the channel have already benefited vastly. Whereas in former years only a few acres have been cultivated here, the large majority of which usually died for want of water, this year not only have all the fields been cultivated and yielded fine harvests, but it is also intended to cultivate them for two harvests in the year. The acreage thus affected, however, is but small in comparison with the sum spent on the works; and it will be a thousand pities if the work is allowed to remain in its present condition instead of being gradually extended to its full capacity. There is undoubtedly a large acreage of excellent land that can be asweddumised north of the Kongeṭi-oya, and an application for 1,000 acres of land here has already been received from a trustworthy and wealthy applicant. An estimate of the cost of carrying the channel across this oya, and an engineering survey of part at least of the channel north of it, should at once be made: for if, as appears to be the case, there are reliable signs of a revival of prosperity in these parts, it is certain that paddy land so near a road and so admirably supplied with water will be eagerly taken up, and thus Government will be able gradually to recoup itself for the large sum spent upon the restoration of the dams.

(5) The partial restoration of the bund of Náula tank and the insertion of an iron sluice were completed in the middle of the year, and mark the beginning of an irrigation policy which, if steadily adhered to for four years, will undoubtedly secure the District from all apprehension of famine, and probably enable it not only to supply itself with good food, but also to export considerable quantities to other parts. The District is fortunate in having secured the services of an officer of the energy and enterprise of Mr. Pole-Fletcher to supervise its irrigation needs. That the work at Náula was well done is testified to by the fact that it withstood the exceptionally heavy floods of December, 1887. The bund will be further heightened and strengthened during 1888. The readiness of the cultivators to do the work required of them was, and is, a most encouraging sign.

(6) In August village committees for irrigation purposes were formed, in accordance with Ordinance No. 21 of 1867, and rules connected with cultivation, &c., were passed by them, which come into force on 1888.

(7) The dignity of Disáwa of Mátalé north and east was revived, and the office conferred upon Dúlléwe Adigár. He will take up his duties directly the arrangements connected with the change are complete, and will work concurrently with the Assistant Agent, and doubtless to the great advantage of the District included in his Disavony.

(8) A new departure has been made this year in the direction of cheap sluices for village tanks. The cost of the sluice generally supplied hitherto to such tanks is Rs. 1,390. The District Engineer (Mr. W. Pole-Fletcher) suggested to the Provincial Engineer a modification of this type, viz., the use of a cheaper kind of iron pipe, the omission of masonry at the joints, and the substitution of iron piles, and further the substitution of a ball-and-socket sluice-valve in place of the screw-valve, thus reducing the total cost of the sluice from Rs. 1,390 to Rs. 330. It is true that a Rs. 1,390 sluice (with an average head of 4 ft. of water) will irrigate 360 acres, while a Rs. 330 sluice, with the same head of water, irrigates only 90 acres; but it is very seldom that the irrigable land under tanks in this District exceeds the latter acreage. This modified type was laid before the Provincial Irrigation Board, and finally sanctioned; and sluices of this type have been ordered for all the tanks selected for sluicing in Kandapola kóralé, thus enabling us to sluice (approximately) four tanks for the cost of one of the ordinary type above referred to.

This cheap type has been still further cheapened by the substitution of stoneware pipes (salt-glazed) for the iron piping. The Assistant Agent and District Engineer obtained leave from the Provincial Irrigation Board to put in an experimental sluice with these pipes, which were accordingly ordered from the Ranegunge Pottery Works, Calcutta, and will be used for sluicing

Lenadora tank. The objection raised to the use of this form of pipe was, that they would certainly be broken in transit: it is satisfactory to be able to state that they have arrived from Calcutta and been transported to Lenadora without a crack or chip of any kind, although no particular care has been taken of them. A sluice of this type (gin-piping) will water 202 acres with an average head of 4 ft. of water, and will cost under Rs. 160, including everything. The saving thus effected is as obvious as it is satisfactory.

S. M. BURROWS,
Acting Assistant Government Agent.

Extracts from Diary.

May 8.—To Nálanda. Visited the *gedigé* in the evening. The ruin has been very well cleared since my last visit, but it is in a very precarious state, and the north wall will barely stand another monsoon. One peculiarity of the ornamentation is, that into the familiar "Buddhist window" ornament is introduced a human face, in some cases admirably carved. This is probably a late development, and I do not remember it elsewhere. The structure must have been very like one of the "Seven Pagodas" at Sadras. There is a broken statue of Buddha. The entrance was of course from the east, and the entrance pillars have been beautifully carved. The ruin should certainly be photographed before more falls.

May 10.—Held a meeting at 1 P.M. for the triennial election of village councillors (Ordinance 26 of 1871). Attendance not very large, except from Wagapanaha Udasiya and Pallésiya: but the postponement of the meeting (owing to change of Assistant Agents) probably accounts for this. Elected six councillors for each of those two kóralés, and shall hold elections for the other kóralés as I pass through them. Endeavoured to impress on the people that they ought to consider it a high honour to sit in the village senate. At present they look upon it as much the same sort of privilege as the payment of road tax. Renewed acts, exempted, &c.

Held inquiry into petition against incumbent of Dambulla viháré. As it was purely a question of temple mismanagement, all I did was to take down what the two parties had to say and transmit it for information. The petitioners' complaint was the old story—appropriation of revenue—and they further charge the Náyaka Unnánsé with granting a power of attorney to a younger priest, who, they say, is one of the greatest blackguards on the country side, and is the cause of all the recent ebony-felling, &c. The Náyaka Unnánsé admitted the power of attorney (which, I fancy, as a matter of fact, he had no right to give, as there is no pupillary succession), and entered into a long rigmarole concerning his own good deeds He is a very old man, possibly over 80. He came to the Dambulla viháré in 1818. It was he who actually produced and crowned the Pretender of 1818, and supplied him with funds from his hoard. A reward was offered for him (the priest) dead or alive, but he fled to the Wanni, lay hid there for some months, came out when the reign of clemency had set in, and was pardoned.

May 13.—Spent the morning at Sigiriya rock with Mr. Creasy. The place is kept fairly clear, but a good deal more clearing might be done with advantage I have given orders to the headmen about it. The whole place is certainly the most curious and unique sight I have seen in Ceylon. It is so near the high road, and the road to it can so easily be made tolerable, that it really would be worth while to build a resthouse here and attract people to the place. We visited, first of all, the "king's bath," excavated out of the solid rock and admirably finished. It measures 16 ft. 6 in. by 8 ft. 6 in. by 5 ft 8 in. deep, and the precipice from its outer edge is 34 ft. and overhanging. A deep-cut perpendicular drain down the face of the precipice conducts the water to a chamber at the base of the precipice, said to be the king's brother's bath. This was once elaborately painted, and the plaster is thick on it still. Below the bath is the throne, on an enormous slab artificially levelled; the slab measures 27 ft. 6 in. by 30 ft. inside measurement. The throne, a very striking piece of carving, measures 14 ft. 6 in. by 7 ft. by 18 in., half round and ogee moulding. The greatest length and breadth of the main slab is 54 ft. by 34 ft., and greatest height above ground level is 17 ft. 6 in. I am very anxious that the Gaysabháwa should sit here instead of the present dirty little hut. A suitable roof could, I think, easily be put up. From the throne the frescoes painted on the cave over the gallery are clearly visible. Unluckily we had no glasses with us. There are apparently two female and three male figures, one of the latter wearing a sceptre. How the myth about the painted lion arose, I cannot guess. There is no sign whatever of any animal painting. We then climbed to what is left of the gallery on the west side. Much more of this is perfect than I expected to find, and the boldness of the conception is only equalled by the extreme ingenuity of the execution. The outer wall of the gallery is 11 ft. high in parts, and the plaster work on it is the finest work of the sort I know. The length of that part of the gallery which is still perfect is 260 ft., and for another 100 ft. it is still accessible, but broken. The cave of frescoes is at least 40 ft. above the gallery, and more than double this from the summit; and the rock from which the cave is hollowed is overhanging. How the painters got at it can only be guessed. Then we climbed to the north side of the rock to attempt the final ascent. It was unluckily blowing a gale, which did not render easier a very nasty climb. For about 50 ft. ladders had been put up; then you have to climb as best you can obliquely along and up the very steep face of the rock, holding on by the niches and string courses on which the bricks of the gallery formerly rested, with a ghastly precipice beneath you. I am free to admit that the extreme probability of slipping, the obvious consequences, and the gale, combined to persuade me that I had had enough of it after a certain distance, and I came down again. Mr. Creasy pluckily reached the top in safety. The details that I give of the top are from his information. I give a rough plan of the summit, which may give some idea of the arrangement of this royal eyry. The large bund running along the east and south sides kept off the furious wind, the one drawback to the situation. It is arranged in terraces of increasing height, and the southern end of it met the termination of the gallery. The large *pokuna* measures 60 ft. by 60 ft. by 12 ft. deep, and is now empty. The so-called "king's bath" measures 1 ft. by 10 ft. by 2½ ft., and has a good supply of water in it. If Government would allow me Rs. 100 I could make both the gallery and the summit easily accessible to the most ordinary climber by means of "jumpers" and rope; and the jumpers could be so fixed as to be incapable of removal by marauding villagers. It is a pity that this should not be done, as I doubt whether either place has its peer in the East.

May 16.—Held an irrigation meeting, which was very largely attended, at the Gaysabháwa. Representatives were present from all the inhabited tanks of Kandapola kóralé. Mr. Creasy and the Ratémahatmayá were also present. I explained to the meeting the general objects of the scheme of restoration; told them that everything depended on their trusting us and working with us, and gave them an outline of what we intended to do in this kóralé, viz., to ask them to clear their bunds and open their roads this year and to do their earthwork next year, and that Government would provide sluices as soon as a reasonable quantity of earthwork was done, favouring those tanks whose inhabitants showed the greatest alacrity in completing their share of the work. The meeting formally bound themselves down to complete their bunds and roads by the middle of October next, and to do their earthwork exactly as directed. They were very anxious to know who was to be appointed overseer, and I fully sympathise with their anxiety. Almost everything depends on the man, and it remains to be seen whether for the very small pay (Rs. 48 per month) we can get anything like the man we want. We have selected the best man available for the price, but I confess I am nervous on this point. Moreover, though some of the árachchies are capital fellows, the Kórála is far from satisfactory. I think it would be a mistake to sluice any tanks here this year.

May 17.—Started with Mr. Creasy for Kalawęwa. I had received several applications from villagers for a road connecting the Galewala district with Kalawęwa, and I wanted to judge for myself of the possibility and prospects of such a road, to get Mr. Creasy's advice as to the trace, and so consult Mr. Ievers as to the feasibility of a road on his side of the boundary. It was very hard to get any definite details as to the distance and nature of the track, the southern part of the North-Central Province being apparently about as well known to the Kandapola cultivator as Scandinavia is to the Hampshire yokel. It has evidently been a large monastery with a series of rock temples in the Dambulla style. There is a long inscription running along the upper kataria quite legible. There are a quantity of ruins in the jungle. After about three miles we struck the fine pinpára at Aṇḍiagala, which runs to Kallanchiya. It was very pleasant to emerge from the jungle on to this broad green highway and see the signs of prosperous cultivation and healthy village life, which are the results of restored irrigation. I had two árachchies with me, who had asked for leave to come and see the "great work," and they have promised to give many a lecture to their people on this text. Reached Kalawęwa about 5 P.M. Met Messrs. Ievers and Wrightson. Settled with the former about the road, which can be cut with the greatest ease so as to join the Aṇḍiagala pinpára; I shall begin my part at once. Talked over some forest matters with Mr. Ievers.

June 9.—The Aḍigar came to dine. I discussed with him the possibility of starting a Mátalé Fair or Agri-Horticultural Show in the autumn. He thought very highly of the idea and its probable utility; so I shall go on with it and call a preliminary meeting to talk it over.

June 14.—Met Pamunuwe árachchi, and went with him to see the Taldena-amuna which he is constructing at his proper cost. Here is a curious case of hyper-irrigation. The árachchi has set to work to dam up a considerable stream, cut a new and more gradual channel for it, and open up new paddy land on either side of the improved water-course. But the work will cost him from £300 to £400 (Mr. Creasy says £500), and he will barely open up fifteen acres! No arguments, however, will move him from his scheme, so I could only praise his enterprise and lament that his rare energy—which, in his case, is a sort of mania or inability to gauge enterprise by result—is not likely to be more profitable. He is rather wealthy, having a coffee garden which brought him in over £500 last year (600 bushels at Rs. 9 per bushel).

June 15.—Rode from Dúlḷęwa to Báridéwále gap. At the gap there is a very fine ambalam, lately built entirely by the villagers on ground given by Dúlḷęwa Dissáwa. The ornamentation and paintings are good and original. It cost Rs. 1,000. The caretaker is paid two bushels of paddy a month by various villages in turn, his chief work being to keep a constant supply of water—which has to be fetched a quarter of a mile—at the ambalam. It is quite the best ambalam I have seen, and makes one feel all the more ashamed that we do absolutely nothing out of our Road Ordinance funds to aid and encourage such public spirit.

July 3.—Gave a jubilee dinner to the Dissawa, Raṭémahatmayás, and Presidents. In the evening arranged to have a great game of *Ankeliya*, open to all the District, towards the end of August, and an exhibition of all the old *ay*, or horns, that are to be found in the District. Some of them are of considerable antiquity and great renown. All the chiefs belong hereditarily to either the *uḷupila* or *yaṭipila*, and promise a large muster of their followers.

July 6.—Held a final meeting of Jubilee Programme Committee to go over accounts. We shall have a balance of nearly Rs. 400; so I broached the idea of devoting this to an Agri-Horticultural Show and Fair to be held early in September. The notion was very well received. I mean to make it as far as possible a native show, though I know all the neighbouring planters will co operate heartily. The "green" will make an excellent place for it, and we will combine with it our game of *Ankeliya*.

Mr. Dickenson, of Wariapola, has been good enough to send me a set of simple but explicit rules and hints for the cutivation of cacao. These I am having translated into plain Sinhalese. I shall then have them printed and copies distributed gratis to every headman and leading villager in the District. I shall then offer a reward of Rs. 5 to any one who can show me thirty cacao shrubs planted and growing in his garden.

July 9.—Wrote to the Government Agent on the subject of applications for chena licenses in Inamaluwa. The question is, whether by refusing these applications we should induce the applicants to go and settle under Elahera. I don't believe we should. The distance is too great; and these people would not be cultivating chenas if there was any water for their own fields. I believe quite as much harm may be done by unwise and hasty attempts to force an artificial population as by apathy. I believe, too, that it is a little puerile and hysterical to deny and curse the whole chena system until the people have been once more supplied with the tanks to which they used to trust.

August 1.—Drove to Náulanda in the morning with Mr. Creasy. Resthouse in capital order: really, if a traveller is not comfortable here, he must be very hard to please. I only wish there was a corresponding amount of attention paid to native ambalams, but the usual answer is, "Oh! they are under the Gaṇsabháwa. The people ought to attend to them themselves." This seems to me monstrous. I think that in every kóralé there ought to be at least one good ambalam built and kept up almost entirely by the Provincial Road Committee. Drove on to Náula after breakfast to see the new sluice just put into Náula tank. The work has of course been excellently done, as it has been under the personal supervision of Mr. Creasy, and the rapidity with which it has been completed has quite astonished the villagers. I held an irrigation meeting under a tree, almost all the cultivators and all the headmen being present. The people are quite ready to do all the earthwork required of them, and willingly signed the usual agreement. They are lucky in having about the best Kórála in the Mátalé District. I agreed to allow them a month to cultivate their chenas, and they agreed to begin earthwork on September 1 and finish it before the monsoon bursts. So far all promises well as regards this tank. The people have themselves suggested the extension of the bund so as to take in another smaller tank and stop up an intervening stream, which will very perceptibly increase the irrigable area. I appointed three new vel-muládéniyas, dismissing one man against whom the villagers made just complaint. The Náula people and the Kandapola people have presented a petition to His Excellency begging that Mr. Creasy may be kept on another year, as they have never had to do with an Irrigation Officer they liked and respected so much. This is a genuine and encouraging action on their part. I heard nothing of it until it was completed, and it shows that, however apathetic they may be said to be, they have an appreciation of honest, trustworthy work, and appreciation, one may hope, will lead to imitation.

I visited the new school, which has been very creditably finished, and was glad to find ninety-three boys present. Met Mr. Abayasékara there, the Sub Inspector of Schools, who was holding the annual examination, and was so far satisfied with the result. I have arranged to have a meeting of the three Raṭémahatmayás and two Presidents once every two months at my house, at which we can discuss matters of District or communal interest in an informal way. The Raṭémahatmayás are to bring to the conference any Kórálas of standing and position whom they like to select.

August 16.—Received from the Police Magistrate the report I asked him to send me on the state of the Mátalé Police, and forwarded it to the Government Agent with my comments. We both agree that their condition is far from satisfactory. They were allowed to get into abominably lax ways by the late Inspector, and neither of the sergeants at present here is capable of pulling them round. We must either have a young and energetic Inspector, or, failing that, a first-rate sergeant, new to the place, if such is available. But I fear it is the old story—the pay is too miserable to attract the best man; and the second or third best men deteriorate with alarming rapidity under the temptations of the position.

August 20.—At Galewala with District Engineer to select (1) two tanks for immediate sluicing this year and (2) twenty tanks to recommend for sluices next year. Delighted to find how remarkably well the villagers have done the work required of them under the capital overseer Mr. Creasy recommended. We only settled on our scheme of action in June and issued our orders, and to-day I find that the bunds of no less than 59 out of a total of 69 tanks have been cleared, and ten miles of road have been cut between tanks. This is most remarkable, and it is all the more important that Government should perform its part of the bargain.

September 2.—Received a circular as to the advisability of placing the regulation of the sale of toddy in the hands of the Gaṇsabháwas. I am strongly in favour of this change. The principal headmen here are open-mouthed at

to the ill effects of the illicit sale that is prevalent everywhere, and which the court is more or less powerless to check I am not at all sure that in a small place like this a stationary court is what is wanted. I should like to see justice much more peripatetic. I don't see why nearly all civil cases of a minor kind should not be tried by Gaṇsabháwas with enlarged powers, and the more important ones sent in to Kandy, while the criminal work might very well be done by the revenue officer with native assistants and the co-operation of the police. As it is, both police and headmen must serve two masters. However much in harmony the court and the kachchéri may be, the Magistrate cannot possibly have any knowledge of the District or of the "headman at home," because he never leaves his court; and the consequent chance of the guilty escaping and the innocent being punished is increased ten-fold. Of course this is a drastic change to propose, but I don't see why it should not be kept in view and gradually worked up to, especially with the example of the Indian system before us.

It certainly is rather annoying to see how remarkably well-fed and comfortable the prisoners look. A villager is convicted before the Police Court and sentenced to six months. He comes in half-starved and feeble, hollow-eyed and ragged; in a month he is a new man: erect, jovial, and round-stomached. The jail becomes a sort of hospital, an Elysian field where the kurakkan-fed thief may rest temporarily from his labours and the bare-boned burglar fatten on unusual rice and succulent curry stuffs. I do not mean to claim a peculiarity in this respect for the Mátalé jail. It is precisely the same in all the jails I have seen, and nothing short of a very drastic reform can alter it. Reform No. 1 must be the employment of a vastly different class of prison guards and officials, paid double the present salaries, on which they will be able to live, instead of starving on the crumbs that fall from the prisoners' tables. Reform No. 2, the institution of a much more elastic and appropriate system of diet, of weighing, and of intelligent medical supervision. Reform No. 3, compulsory silence, except at certain hours. Reform No. 4, separate cells. Reform No. 5, the transference of all prisoners convicted for more than three months to the central establishments at Kandy and Colombo. But these ideas are of course purely Utopian.

September 15.—The *aṇ*, or horns, for the forthcoming game of *aṇkeliya* were brought to the kachchéri to-day in solemn state, with many tom-toms and much discordance of music. There are four in all, two larger and two smaller, each one tied to an enormously strong post with vast quantities of jungle ropes and mysterious knottings. The expectation of foul play is so deeply seated that the horns are supposed to be safe nowhere but in my office in the kachchéri, which I am to lock up and open myself. Truly the Siṇhalese notion of a "game" involves more trouble than pleasure! The whole country side has been searched for the specially correct sort of materials, and men have been at work day and night for a week at the apparently simple task of tying the horns to their posts. One would be induced, in one's stupid English way, to back Jack Tar with a two-inch rope and a couple of hours to work on, against all this elaborate preparation, forgetting the religious and historical associations that make every knot a fragment of ritual and every difference of direction in the strand of a rope a lamentable breach of precedent.

September 20–27.—It would be absurd to profess to have done anything beyond the necessary routine during the Show Week. It is a very great point to have had a really successful show to start with, more especially from the point of view of the natives. The idea is utterly new to most of them, and there is no doubt that both they and we have yet a great deal to learn as regards the management of these shows. The ideal things to aim at in future will be to so arrange the native classes as to give a fair chance of distinction to all sorts and conditions of men: and it will require a great deal of discussion and examination to discover the best way of doing this, for it certainly is not done at present, and I don't think has been tried anywhere. The poor man now has very small prospect of a prize, except in the case of a few inferior articles, more or less luxuries. What of course we must aim at is to try and improve the general condition and cultivation of the essential food of the people—particularly paddy and fine grain—by means of competition. But whether to do this by a wealth limit or by an acreage limit, or in some other way, is what we have to settle next time. But it would have been premature to try it at our first show. Although the ordinary poor cultivator had no chance this time, there was keen competition among the chiefs and principal headmen; and such competition must in time leaven the whole lump. It was pleasant to see so many kachchéri clerks and other similar officials competing, and to find that a kachchéri clerk carried off the two gold medals on the native side. The live stock was undoubtedly disappointing. This may, or may not, be due to the novelty of shows to the native mind. The question is, whether improvement in this direction can be effected by future shows. I am ignorant how far the buffalo is supposed to be capable of improvement by care and selection, but all animals are so, more or less, and it is obvious that improvement, if practicable, is much to be desired. For instance, the objection invariably raised by native cultivators to the use of better ploughs is, that their cattle won't and can't drag them through the mud. Very good: strengthen the muscle, improve the draught power of the ploughing animal, and the objection disappears. So with cart and tavalam bullocks: a little judicious crossing with Nellore and other accessible breeds would vastly improve the transport possibilities of the country—a very important point in an outlying and hilly District like Mátalé.

I have not said much about the estate side of the show, partly because of my own ignorance and partly because it appeared to be more generally satisfactory. We made one or two mistakes of course, but I think, on the whole, our arrangements as to competition met with general approval, and though it has been said that the quantity or size of the tea-break we demanded (300 lb.) was too small, and made it possible for fancy teas to pose as commercial teas, still the result of enlarging the break would have been to exclude from competition a great many small estates that are just struggling into existence; and this would have been a foolish policy in Mátalé. On the whole, we have every reason to be contended with the result of our first attempt, and to hope that it may mark the beginning of a new era of prosperity for the Mátalé District.

September 28.—Mr. Ormsby came. He had been to see Náula-weewa (lately sluiced), and evidently thinks the expenditure on the sluice too large for the size of the tank and its head of water. But he did not see apparently the beautiful spring at the back of the tank, which I think more than justifies a second-class sluice, apart from the fact that we wanted, and asked for, the sluice as a model. But I told him that I was very far from being wedded to any particular form of sluice; in fact, so far as Mátalé north is concerned, the cheaper the sluice the more we can do. It is an engineer's question: let them give us a sluice to cost Rs. 250 instead of Rs. 1,390, and guarantee its efficiency, and they will earn our warmest gratitude; but sluiced the tanks must be, in some way or other.

October 1.—Monthly meeting of Raṭémahamayás at my house. We discussed the following points:—

(1) The letter forwarding the collective suggestions of the Government Agents as to increased pay for minor headmen by the legalisation and institution of certain extra fees. Against most of these there is little to say, except that they sound very generous and mean very little, but all the Raṭémahatmayás objected to the principle that really poor people should be taxed extra in order to pay headmen higher, which would be the case if fees were allowed for reports on chena applications. I quite agree with them, and I don't think that is the way to tackle the chena question.

(2) All the Raṭémahatmayás complain that they are perpetually being summoned to court when their evidence is not really wanted, simply because every plaintiff thinks it the proper thing to have a Raṭémahatmáya on his list of witnesses. This leads to a vast waste of their time, and very often to considerable expense; and the same thing applies to minor headmen. They suggest that there should be a scale of charges—*e. g.*, Raṭémahatmayá or President, Rs. 2; Kórála or registrar, Rs. 1; árachchi, 50c., per diem—which the Police Magistrate or President should have the power of making the party in the case pay who summoned the headmen, if it turned out that the headman's evidence was not absolutely essential. This is, I think, a very fair suggestion.

(3) We again discussed the question of paying vel-muládéniyás a small share from each field. After a month's cogitation on the subject the chiefs are all agreed that it would be advantageous to introduce this system, and the Raṭémahatmayás say that they are sure the people will readily assent to it, and that they can introduce it without any coercive action on the part of the kachchéri, which is exactly what I want.

(4) The cutting and selling of unripe arecanuts, which is becoming a very serious evil, and is rapidly diminishing the arecanut wealth of the District. What is really wanted is a stringent Gaṇsabháwa rule against the

cutting, besides the Ordinance against the unlawful possession, and I should not be at all sorry to see the Gaṇsabhâwa given the power of recommending fifteen strokes with a rattan as a punishment for this particular offence.

(5) We discussed the Agri-Horticultural Show and its lessons. The Raṭémahatmayás are unanimous and enthusiastic as to the good that has been done by this, and can be done by future shows; but they also fully admit the necessity of making more favourable terms for the poorer cultivator by means of a more careful classification. They also approve of my suggestion to appoint a committee some time before the show to examine and report on native gardens and recommend the best for medals and diplomas.

October 13.—Went in to Kandy to see the Government Agent on several matters, more especially irrigation. I am convinced, after seeing something of the Mátalé tanks, that the large majority of them do not require anything so expensive as a second or even a third class sluice, and that it is simply wasting money to put them in, and very absurd to be tied down by these three types, as if no other form of sluice were possible. We have hit upon the idea of a sluice which will only cost between Rs. 200 and Rs. 250, all told. It consists simply of iron pipes eight inches in diameter, laid underneath the bund on the solid ground, with a rose or perforated strainer at the tank side end and a plug with a staple to let the water out when required on the field side. This pipe will irrigate at least 150 acres with a six-foot head of water, which is just about the capacity of most of the Mátalé tanks; and should it be thought advisable to raise the bund afterwards and increase the head of water, a second similar sluice can be inserted, the two together costing less than half the sum required for a third class sluice. I got the Agent's leave to insert one of these as an experiment, paying for the cost out of my irrigation fines, and I am going up next week to select an accessible tank where the experiment can be easily visited and tested.

November 18.—Had a long talk with the new Raṭémahatmayá of Mátalé east about block chenas and the survey thereof. Told him that the great point was not to get all the lands we could for Government, but to get the question settled on the most generous terms compatible with common sense; that he could do excellent work between this and the new year by impressing upon the people that, although the question was certainly going to be taken up, we were not coming in the guise of enemies and invaders; that every consideration would be given to any claims or customs they preferred, and generous terms allowed them. I think he grasped the position, though the doctrine seemed a little new to him, and he did'nt feel quite sure whether it was to be taken *au grand sérieux*. His is the division in which block settlements are most urgently required. Irrigation in Mátalé north and block settlements in Mátalé east must be the two leading works of next year.

December 1.—My suggestion that Rs. 1,000 out of the Rs. 5,000 down on the Supply Bill for the Galawela road should be at once advanced to me for famine relief works having been approved, I made arrangements to-day to start the relief works. I am despatching to-day thirty bushels of rice and the necessary tools to Galawela to the care of the árachchi and Kórála, and am sending up two trustworthy overseers. Every man who works at the roads is to have two seers of rice a day, every woman one seer, every child half a seer (one fourth seer is enough for one meal). Besides this, every person whom the village árachchi certifies is unable to work and is without any means of subsistence is to have half a seer. Work will begin on the 5th.

I distributed some barley seeds to Mr. R. S. Fraser and to Mr. Nugapitiya. The former is going to try it on a hillside above Kandanuwara, the latter on some land of his near Mátalé. Whether it will do in the latter place is an open question. I have very little doubt that it will in the former. I am also writing to India for some poppy seed.

December 5.—I begin a scheme to-day that I have proposed to Government before. I have found a likely piece of land near my compound—in fact, between the Park and the paddy fields attached to it—and I have set ten of the Siṇhalese prisoners to work at planting it up with cacao according to Mr. Dickenson's instructions. This will serve several purposes:—(1) A great many Siṇhalese garden owners near Mátalé are anxious to know how to plant cacao; I can send them here for a practical lesson. (2) The prisoners who worked at it will carry away with them a very practical lesson. (3) The value of this piece of unused Crown land will be very much increased if the cacao thrives. (4) I have persuaded several of the headmen to try cacao, and the best way to urge them on is to do it oneself.

I received several baskets of cacao pods for seed from Dr. Trimen yesterday, and began the distribution to-day. There were a great many applicants. I keep a list of all distributed, and shall pay a visit of inspection next year. Every man who takes pods gets also a pamphlet in Siṇhalese giving full instructions as detailed by Mr. Dickenson.

Meeting of the Mátalé Town Association in the evening. Mr. Eaton gave an excellent lecture "On our Social Customs," and there was a very good attendance.

December 8.—Went to the cremation of Aluviháré Lékama, who has long been one of the leading people of the place. The funeral pyre was close to the high road. It was a striking and affecting sight to see the four sons prostrating themselves before the pyre in a last farewell before the torch was put to it. It was fired by a son-in-law and a nephew from either end. The walking round the pyre before lighting it was very classical. The two men who fired it held the torches behind them and turned their backs to the fire. The funeral music on tom-toms and cymbals was certainly expressive, but rather of the strange and weird than of the melancholy and sentimental.

December 29.—Held the monthly meeting of Raṭémahatmayás and Presidents. They are of opinion that the term of imprisonment the Gaṇsabháwas are able to inflict is out of all proportion and less severe than the fine they are able to inflict; that the villagers positively enjoy coming to jail and good food for a mere fortnight, and never dream in consequence of paying a fine of Rs. 5, and still less of Rs. 10; and this fortnight's imprisonment has not the least deterrent effect on habitual criminals. I suggested that perhaps the difficulty might be met if Government were to direct Presidents to send to the Police Courts any offender who was either habitual or was for some other reason deserving a heavier punishment, with a certificate stating why the offender was so sent, while Government might at the same time direct Police Magistrates on no account to refuse to entertain petty charges sent before them by the President with such a certificate.

NORTHERN PROVINCE.

REVENUE ADMINISTRATION REPORT OF THE GOVERNMENT AGENT, NORTHERN PROVINCE, FOR 1887.

THE past year was not in all respects a favourable one to the people of the Northern Province.

Owing to the drought experienced at the close of 1886, and the absence of rain in January 1887, there was a partial failure of the kalapokam crop of the Jaffna District and a general failure of the kalapokam crops of the Mannár and Mullaittívu Districts. An unexpected pearl fishery made up for the loss to the people of the Mannár District, but it was found necessary to afford relief in the shape of relief works in the Mullaittívu District and to make advances for seed paddy for the kalapokam of 1888.

There was a deficiency of rain throughout the year till October. The drought gave way in October, and there was a fair fall of rain in October and November and heavy rain over the whole Province from about December 11 to the close of the year. In the Mannár, Mullaittívu, and Vavuṇiya-Világkulam Districts the rain was heavier than in the Jaffna District, flooding the whole country and causing much damage to tanks and roads.

The public health was in general good, the Province having been free from any outbreak of epidemic disease.

The revenue returns annexed show an increase in the gross revenue collected in 1887 of Rs. 459,819, as compared with the revenue collected in 1886, as follows :—

	Rs.
1887	1,104,017
1886	644,198
Increase ...	459,819

Deducting from the above collections on account of—

	1886. Rs.	c.	1887. Rs.	c.	
Salt for export beyond sea	9,600	0	890	0	Increase in 1887 Rs. 396,579.
Passage money of immigrant coolies ...	8,822	0	16,434	0	
Pearl Fishery	—		397,677	0	
Total ...	18,422	0	415,001	0	

the collection on account of ordinary revenue is, for 1886 Rs. 625,776, for 1887 Rs. 689,016; added to which the sums collected under the Thoroughfares Ordinance—viz., 1886, Rs. 77,387 ; 1887, Rs. 76,869—gives total contribution by the people to public objects in 1887, Rs. 765,885 ; in 1886, Rs. 703,163 ; increase, Rs. 62,722.

The following statement gives the actual state of the ordinary revenue due and collected on account of 1887, as compared with 1886, excluding salt sold for export beyond sea, passage money of immigrant coolies, pearl fishery, and receipts under the Thoroughfares Ordinance :—

		Rs.	c.
Total ordinary revenue collected in 1886		625,776	0
Deduct arrears of 1885 collected in 1886		8,877	0
		616,899	0
Add arrears of 1886 outstanding on December 31, 1886, the whole of which has already been recovered		6,727	0
Total ...		623,626	0
Total ordinary revenue collected in 1887	—	689,016	
Deduct arrears of 1883–84 collected in 1887	9,250*		
Deduct arrears of 1884 collected in 1887	19,500*		
Deduct arrears of 1886 collected in 1887	6,727		
		35,477	
		653,539	
Add arrears of 1887 outstanding on December 31, 1887, of which Rs. 5,505 have already been recovered		6,598	
		660,137	
Real ordinary revenue of 1886		623,626	
Real ordinary revenue of 1887		660,137	

* These are 95 per cent. of the amounts of security for arrack and other rents that were in deposit in the late Oriental Bank Corporation at the time of its closing, and received in 1887 through the Treasurer and credited on account of the last four instalments of the rents outstanding.

showing an increase of Rs. 36,511 as compared with 1886. All the revenue of the two years has now been collected, except Rs. 1,093 on account of assessment tax on houses of 1887, which it is expected will be wholly recovered before the close of July.

Applying to the total general revenue the same calculations as have been applied to the ordinary revenue in regard to the arrears outstanding and recovered, it will be seen that there is really an increase of Rs. 433,090, and not Rs. 459,819 as shown in the return of revenue collected.

The difference between the real increase in the gross general revenue of 1887, as compared with 1886, and the ordinary revenue of the two years, is entirely on account of the pearl fishery collection, which amounted to Rs. 397,677.

	Rs.
Increase in gross general revenue	433,090
Increase in ordinary revenue	36,511
Difference	396,579

The increase in the real ordinary revenue has been chiefly as follows :—

	Rs.
Customs	64,355
Port Dues	647
Ferry Tolls	410
House Rent	698
Arrack and Toddy Rent	2,625
Salt Rent	8,000
Dead Chanks	2,281
Salt for wholesale	253
Arrack sold at Silávaturai	2,303
Overpayments	11,997
Unclaimed Deposits	510
Total ...	94,079

Whilst there have been decreases in the real ordinary revenue as follows :—

	Rs.
Land Sales	1,368
Paddy Rented	29,762
Paddy (aumani)	836
Dry Grain Rented	4,888
Lease of Lands	252
Bridge Tolls	255
Royalty on Elephants	700
Stamps	9,591
Taxes	1,210
Fines	4,063
Salt for retail	1,675
Timber	882
Government Gazette	194
Dispensaries	193
Maintenance of Prisoners	263
Survey Fees	463
Small Receipts	889
Total ...	57,484

The increase on *Customs* is attributable to a large importation of grain from India.

On *Ferry Tolls*, to larger amount realised by the sale of rents.

On *House Rent*, to rent having been recovered for the Government Agent's residence in 1887. No rent was recovered in 1886 on account of its having been under repair.

On *Arrack and Toddy Rent*, to larger amount realised by the sale of the rent of 1886–7.

On *Salt Rent*, to larger amount realised by the sale of the rent of 1887.

On *Dead Chanks*, to larger quantity of chanks having been dug in 1887 than in 1886.

On *Salt Wholesale*, to favourable weather for fishing at Mannár and Mullaittívu.

On *Arrack*, to arrack sold at Silávaturai to the pearl fishery which took place in 1887.

On *Overpayments*, to an amount of Rs. 10,295·77 drawn and deposited for paying the value of salt obtained from Kalpiṭiya having been refunded on Government deciding that such payment was not to be made.

On *Unclaimed Deposits*, to the transfer to revenue chiefly of long-standing Court of Requests and Police Court deposits.

The decrease on *Land Sales* is owing to a less extent of land having been sold in the Mannár, Mullaittívu, and Vavuṇiya-Viláṇkulam Districts during 1887 than in 1886.

On *Paddy Rented*, to the crops in 1887 not having been as good as those of 1886.

On *Dry Grain Rented*, to the crops in 1887 not having been as good as those of 1886.

On *Lease of Crown Lands*, to the discontinuance of the system of leasing consequent on surveyed lands being available for sale.

On *Bridge Tolls*, to less amounts having been realised by the sale of the rents in 1887 than in 1886.

On *Royalty on Elephants*, to fewer elephants having been exported in 1887 than in 1886.

On *Stamps*, to postage stamps having been supplied to the Postmasters by the Postmaster-General in 1887 instead of by the Government Agent as in 1886.

On *Taxes*, to paddy lands having been exempted in 1887 from liability to assessment tax levied on them in the previous years.

On *Timber*, to the usual amount of timber not having been felled and removed to Jaffna in 1887, owing to the orders of Government limiting the expenditure of the Forest Department in anticipation of the arrival of a Conservator of Forests from India.

The increase and decrease under other heads of real ordinary revenue do not call for special remark.

The total receipts under the Thoroughfares Ordinance were as follows :—

District.	1886. Rs.	c.	1887. Rs.	c.
Jaffna	65,662	58	65,659	35
Mannár	6,541	36	6,621	65
Mullaittívu	2,342	14	1,850	50
Vavuṇiya-Viláṇkulam ...	2,841	25	2,737	50
Total ...	77,387	33	76,869	0

Excluding from the above the casual receipts, as value of trees cut and blown down on road-sides, refund of charges overdrawn, &c., the actual contribution by the people in the shape of tax under the Thoroughfares Ordinance was as follows :—

District.	1886. Rs.	c.	1887. Rs.	c.
Jaffna	60,418	0	60,710	0
Mannár	6,476	25	6,610	0
Mullaittívu	2,265	0	1,847	50
Vavuṇiya-Viláṇkulam ...	2,713	75	2,737	50
Total ...	71,873	0	71,905	0

The amounts due for 1886 and 1887 were recovered before the close of each year.

The expenditure under the Thoroughfares Ordinance was as follows :—

District.	1886. Rs.	c.	1887. Rs.	c.
Jaffna	67,959	75	69,991	98
Mannár	6,966	46	6,992	54
Mullaittívu	3,421	2	1,765	42
Vavuṇiya-Viláṇkulam ...	2,641	90	2,570	81
Total ...	80,989	13	81,320	75

WEATHER.

The first quarter was in general dry. There was an entire absence of rain during January. On the night of February 9 and during the 10th there was some heavy rain over the whole District. On March 21 there was again rain which continued till about midnight, when a cyclone set in accompanied by heavy rain, thunder, and lightning from the south-west. The wind worked round to north-west and north, and in the morning it was blowing in heavy gusts from the north-east, gradually going round to south-east.

There was a deficiency of rain during the second quarter, very little rain having accompanied the setting in of the south-west monsoon. There were partial showers in April and the early part of June. Some bad weather was experienced in the northern part of the District on April 28, consequent, apparently, on a cyclone in the Bay of Bengal. Similar weather was experienced at the pearl fishery at Silávaturai on the same day.

There was again a failure of rain during the third quarter. July was dry and hot. In August there was some rain over the whole District on the 9th and 13th. In September there was rain in the early part of the month, but a failure of the usual sowing rains at the close of the month. The wind was in general strong during the quarter from south and south-west.

During October and November there was a fair fall of rain, and in December there was heavy rain in all parts of the District.

The ss. Serendib was caught in the gale of March referred to above. Captain Robson informed me that he observed that a gale was coming on when he was about to leave Trincomalee. As he came along the coast the wind increased and a strong current set in, which took him some miles to sea out of his course. On the morning of the 21st he again made the land.

At Point Pedro he managed to land some passengers and pushed on to Kankésanturai, for which port the vessel was by an oversight advertised instead of for Jaffna, as usual at this season of the year. There she experienced the full force of the gale, but managed to ride it out some distance from the usual anchorage with two anchors down and a hundred fathoms of chain. Finding it impossible to communicate with the shore, she came round to Jaffna. Two cargo boats were smashed at Kankésanturai.

A dhony loaded with paddy coming from Musalipatam nearly foundered, but managed to get into Valluveṭṭiturai, a quantity of the paddy having been thrown overboard.

CROPS AND AGRICULTURAL OPERATIONS.

The kalapokam paddy crop was gathered in during the first quarter. Although it was anticipated that there would be a general failure of the crop owing to the deficiency of rain in December and the total failure of rain in January, fully a three-fourths crop was secured, the low lands in most of the villages having yielded very fine crops.

In Tenmarachchi the crops were fine, there having been very little failure in that division.

The low lands of Valikámam west and Vaḍamarachchi also yielded fine crops. In the Pachchilaippali and in the Karaichchi, except in Pandisuddan, the crops were on the whole indifferent, although there were some fine patches here and there. The Pandisuddan crop was a good one.

In the Punakari division, except in Nellore, Palavi, Pallai, Chempankundu, Veravil, and Ponnaveli, there were very good crops.

The varaku crops were in general very poor.

The first quarter dry grain crop was an indifferent one. Those of the second, third, and fourth quarters were good.

The sowing of the paddy fields for the kalapokam of 1888, which was delayed for want of rain in September, was completed in October, and the rains of November and December brought forward the plants of the August and September sowing. A sudden set in of south-west wind for a short time in November proved injurious to the plants of the later sowing, producing what is called "chentall," viz., the red barren shoot. The prospects of the kalapokam crop of 1888 were, however, on the whole good at the close of the year.

The tobacco crop was all cut by the close of the third quarter. The crop was a good one and superior to that of 1886.

Palmirah fruit was gathered in during August and September, and punatu manufactured. The crop was not so good as that of 1886.

The following are extracts from the season reports of the Assistant Government Agents of Mannár, Mullaittívu, and Vavuniya-Vilángkulam, regarding the weather, crops, &c., in those Districts :—

MANNÁR.

First Quarter.—There was scarcely any rain until the end of March. The measured rainfall during the quarter is as follows :—

	In.
January	0·52
February	1·01
March	4·35
	5 88

The kalapokam paddy and dry grain crops were reaped and stacked during the quarter. The crops of this year have failed to a great extent for want of rain in time. The amount realised by the sale of the tithe of this year's crops is Rs. 5,062·75, whereas that of last year was Rs. 16,474·42.

Second Quarter.—There were a few showers of rain in the month of April and one on June 1.

	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.
	In.	In.	In.	In.	In.
April ...	0·02	·47	—	2·80	1·66
May ...	8·84	·90	4·05	1·69	0·10
June ...	—	—	5·53	—	2·33
Total ...	8·86	1·37	9·58	4·49	4·09

The kalapokam paddy crops have been reaped and threshed. The yield does not compare favourably with last year. There has been a failure of crops in many of the villages for want of sufficient rain.

Third Quarter.—There has been no rain during the three months of the quarter, except a small drizzling in September.

	1886.	1887.
	In.	In.
July	2·44	—
August	4·68	—
September	2·57	·02
Total ...	9·69	·02

The crops of the last kalapokam harvest have been threshed. In some villages the beds of the tanks and fields have already been sown, while in others they are being prepared for the next kalapokam.

Fourth Quarter.—A good deal of rain fell during the quarter, and the wind has been variable as usual at this season of the year. Rainfall during the quarter was as follows :—

	1886.	1887.
	In.	In.
October	5·44	12·27
November	11·48	6·89
December	3·57	23·05
Total ...	20·49	42·21

The tanks in the District are full and the fields under them have been all cultivated for kalapokam. The dry grain cultivation in Mannár is being reaped. The paddy cultivation is nearly ripe.

MULLAITTI'VU.

First Quarter.—There was very little rain during the quarter and the weather was dry and hot. The rainfall was in—

	In.
January	0·53
February	0·27
March	0·40
Total ...	1·20

Average for eight years for the first quarter is 7·49 inches.

The kalapokam crops were reaped and stacked during the quarter. They failed entirely in many places for want of rain, and the total yield was very small.

Second Quarter.—There were slight showers of rain at intervals during the quarter in all parts of the District, and sufficient rain fell in Tunukkai to fill some of the tanks. The south-west monsoon set in in May, and it has been blowing stronger than usual. The weather was however hot as usual in the dry months.

The rainfall registered at Mullaittivu was—

	In.
April	0·36
May	0·85
June	1·79
Total ...	3·00

Average for seven years is 3·66 inches.

The kalapokam stacks were threshed during the quarter, but the crop as reported before was a scanty one.

There having been abundant rain in Tunukkai, six tanks were sown in April and one in May for sirupokam, and in all 85 bushels of paddy were put into the ground. The springs at Mulliavalai and Tanniyuttu did not contain enough water to enable the sirupokam lands to be cultivated as usual, and in May only four bushels were sown, but as heavy showers of rain fell in June some 60 bushels have been sown since.

The tobacco crop, which is said to be double that of last year owing to the increase in extent cultivated, was reaped and cured in April and May. A few gardens were abandoned in different places as water failed in the wells and pools attached to them. Leaves are comparatively cheap.

Fourty-five permits were issued for dry grain cultivation in Crown lands adjoining the village clearings and in the chenas cleared in 1885 and 1886.

Third Quarter.—Moderate showers of rain fell at intervals all over the District, except at Tunukkai, during the quarter. The greater portion thereof fell during the latter part of August and the first part of September. There was heavy rain on August 14 ; 3·10 inches fell in about four hours. The rainfall during the quarter was as follows :—

	In.
July	1·90
August	5·76
September	2·13
Total ...	9·79

Average for eight years is 5·32 inches.

The sirupokam crops were reaped during the quarter, and the total produce estimated was 1,470 bushels against 1,402 in 1886. The increase is owing to a larger extent sown in Tunukkai, where good rain fell in April and May, though the extent sown under the springs was comparatively small. Sowing for the kalapokam commenced in August, and by the end of September 5,370 bushels have been sown against 2,780 during the corresponding quarter of 1886. A larger extent has been sown owing to early rain. 980 bushels of seed paddy were obtained from Batticaloa and lent out to cultivators on Government account. The paddy plants are however dying in several places, as there has been no rain since September 7.

Fourth Quarter.—Very little rain fell up to October 20, when it commenced and continued to fall throughout the quarter with short intervals. Heavy and incessant rain fell from December 16 to 29, in consequence of which fourteen tanks were breached in the District and the tappal communication was stopped once for two days and again for six days (from December 18 to 23) by the overflow of the Kanakaráyan-áru between Mankulam and Olumadu.

The rainfall registered at Mullaittivu was :—

	In.
October	7·59
November	10·90
December	19·90
Total ..	38·39

The average for eight years for the same quarter is 38·04 inches.

2,500 bushels of paddy were sown for kalapokam during the quarter, and this, added to the extent sown during the previous quarter, amounts to 7,870 bushels against 10,138 during the two corresponding quarters of 1886. The decrease in extent sown would be still larger had not seed paddy been issued on Government account.

The dry grain crops in the village clearings and chenas are said to be good.

Reaping of the paddy as well as dry grain crops will be commenced in the latter part of this month.

VAVUNIYA-VILÁNKULAM.

First Quarter.—The weather during the quarter has been unusually dry and hot. The rainfall during the quarter was :—

	In.
January	0·55
February	0·49
March	0·92
Total ...	1·96

The average rainfall during the quarter for the last five years is 9·01.

The kalapokam crop was reaped and stacked during the quarter. Owing to the drought the crop is nowhere equal to that of last year, and in several villages has failed altogether.

The following extent was sown for idaippokam :—

	Bushels.
January	1,076
February	258
March	24
Total ...	1,358

The total sown for last year was 1,244 bushels.

Most of the tanks were nearly dry during the quarter.

Second Quarter.—The weather during the quarter has been dry and hot. The rainfall during the quarter was :—

	In.
April	7·05
May	0·03
June	0·71
Total ...	7·79

The average rainfall during the quarter for the last five years is 8·33. The south-west monsoon set in towards the early part of April, but there was comparatively little rain.

The kalapokam paddy tithe rent was sold in April, May, and June. The amount realised by the sale was Rs. 3,674·10, which shows a decrease of Rs. 4,148·02 from that of last year. The decrease is owing to the failure of the usual rains at the close of the year:—

	1886. Bushels.	1887. Bushels.
Extent sown for kalapokam	6,908·8	6,387·14
Do. idaippokam	1,244·0	1,358·00
Do. sirupokam	381·0	157·16
Extent sown for sirupokam :—		
April		¼—
May		144½
June		13
Total ...		157½

The total sown for last year was 319 bushels.

The bunds are being repaired and raised as usual.

Third Quarter.—The weather during the quarter has been dry and hot. The rainfall during the quarter was:—

	In.
July	0·13
August	2·29
September	0·46
Total ...	2·88

The average rainfall during the quarter for the last five years is 6·71.

The idaippokam crops and part of the sirupokam were reaped and stacked The labour called out in the earlier part of the year was employed on the tanks during the quarter.

Fourth Quarter.—The rainfall during the quarter was:—

	In.
October	10·95
November	7·74
December	30·09
Total ...	48 78

The average rainfall during the quarter for the five years 1882–1886 was 38·06 inches.

Ploughing and sowing for kalapokam were being carried on until interrupted by the heavy rain on December 17.

The following extent of land was sown for kalapokam:—

	Bushels.
October	1366·06
November	1501·00
December	636·24
Total ...	3503·30

The total sown for last year was 4,254 bushels. The decrease in the extent sown is due to want of seed paddy.

The heavy rain from December 17 to 28 last caused a number of tanks to breach; the recently restored tanks, Vavuṇiya-Vilaṅkulam, Iratperiyakulam, Mamaḍu, and Mandukkoḍḍai, however, escaped serious damage, though slips and leaks occurred at all except Vavuṇiya-Vilaṅkulam. In Kilakkumulai 23 tanks breached, and 14 of them have been repaired, and the others are being repaired except Nochchimoḍḍai In Mélpattu 20 tanks breached, and two only have been reported repaired as yet. In Uḍayar-úr ten tanks breached. Sufficient water is retained in most of the tanks by temporary repairs.

FOOD SUPPLY.

The estimated outturn of the paddy crops of the Province amounted to about 920,000 bushels,* the varaku crop, which was a very poor one, probably amounted to 28,000 bushels, the other dry grains yielded about 250,000 bushels, making in all 1,198,000 bushels local crop.

The import of grain coastwise and from beyond sea amounted to:—

	Bushels.
Paddy	1,166,714 †
Rice	185,336 †
Other grains	15,334 †

There were exported from the Province:—

	Bushels.
Paddy	62
Rice	7,060
Other grains	275

Apparently consumed, therefore, in the Province of both home-grown and imported grain:—

	Bushels.
Paddy	2,086,652
Rice	178,276
Other grains	293,059

Taking half a bushel of rice as equal to one bushel of paddy, the quantity of rice imported and locally grown during 1887 would have amounted to 1,221,602 bushels, of which

* Jaffna, 750,000 bushels; Mannár, 75,000 bushels; Mullaittívu, 35,000 bushels; Vavuṇiya-Vilaṅkulam, 60,000 bushels.

† Of this the quantity imported from Batticaloa was paddy, 107,730 bushels; rice, 134 bushels; other grain, 985 bushels.

1,100,000 bushels at least were probably consumed during the year. To this should be added a quantity of paddy brought up from Anurádhapura, of which however there are no returns.

Coconut trees generally bore well during the year.

Fish for local consumption was in general sufficient. A large number of turtle were also caught and the flesh retailed in the bazaar.

The number of cattle slaughtered in the slaughter-house at Jaffna by licensed butchers was 339.

The tobacco crop was, as already remarked, a good one and superior to that of 1886.

The crop of palmirah fruit was not so good as that of 1886. The quantity of palmirah toddy drawn was about the average.

The import of arrack amounted to 13,155 gallons.

The following statements are connected with food supplies:—

Statement showing the quantity of Grain imported from beyond Sea and Coastwise into the Northern Province during 1886 and 1887.

Places from which Imported.	1886.			1887.		
	Paddy.	Rice.	Other Grains.	Paddy.	Rice.	Other Grains.
	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.
Imported from beyond Sea	700,406	99,337 5/32	5,048	1,043,339 7/32	169,734 9/16	11,559¾
Imported to the Province from Batticaloa...	126,967	142	789	107,730	134	985
From other places beyond this Province ...	13,041	5,300	6,595	15,644	15,467	2,789
Total ...	840,414	104,779 5/32	12,432	1,166,713 7/32	185,335 9/16	15,333¾*

Statement showing the Foreign and Coastwise Import Trade on the following Articles in 1886 and 1887.

	Foreign.				Coastwise.			
	1886.		1887.		1886.		1887.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		Rs. c.		Rs. c.	Gallons.	Rs. c.	Gallons.	Rs. c.
Arrack ...	—	—	—	—	13,367	27,797 0	13,155	45,303 50
	Cwt.		Cwt.		Cwt.		Cwt.	
Curry stuffs ...	4,365 1 10	27,113 92	2,894 3 20	26,932 96	1,323 0 19	14,740 14	1,184 1 17	13,248 13
Potatoes ...	195 3 5	1,468 45	157 0 22	1,178 98	13 0 18	219 0	26 2 4	293 0
Tobacco manufactured ...	0 2 26¼	1,233 75	2 2 17½	4,462 50	4 0 0	28 0	29 0 0	1,477 0
Tobacco unmanufactured ...	32 2 9	1,140 32	25 3 4½	902 65	2,750 3 6	87,833 50	6,910 0 25	113,958 50
	Bushels.		Bushels.		Bushels.		Bushels.	
Wheat ...	1,083	3,519 75	2,217	7,205 25	248	927 0	514½	1,797 0

TOBACCO TRADE.

The return shows a decrease of 10,272 cwt. in the export of tobacco beyond sea and an increase of 5,837 cwt. coastwise, as compared with 1886, as follows:—

	Beyond Sea.		Coastwise.		Total.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Cwt. qr. lb.	Rs. c.	Cwt. qr. lb.	Rs. c.	Cwt. qr. lb.	Rs. c.
1886 ...	45,942 3 0	1,078,837 50	18,519 2 14	583,454 75	64,462 1 14	1,662,292 25
1887 ...	35,670 2 0	703,302 50	24,357 0 14	640,362 50	60,027 2 14	1,343,665 0

To this should be added a quantity of tobacco sent to Mátalé, &c., by road, of which, however, there is no return. The quantity exported in 1885, viz., 80,690 cwt. and 3 qrs., was, as remarked in the report for that year, the largest quantity ever exported.

HEALTH OF PEOPLE.

Jaffna.

The health of the Jaffna District was in general good during the first, second, and third quarters of the year. During the fourth quarter fever, diarrhœa, dysentery, and cough were prevalent, as is generally the case in the rainy season.

* To this must be added the quantity of wheat imported, as follows:—1886, 1,331 bushels; 1887, 2,731 bushels.

The following are the statistics of smallpox in the Jaffna District as reported by the headmen :—

	Attacks.	Deaths.	Villages infected.
First Quarter	1	—	1
Second Quarter	—	—	—
Third Quarter	—	—	—
Fourth Quarter	1	—	1
Total ...	2	—	2

The following are extracts from the season reports of the Assistant Government Agents of Mannár, Mullaittívu, and Vavuṇiya-Viláṇkulam regarding the health of the people in those Districts :—

Mannár.

First Quarter.—Health of people has been good during the quarter, except a few cases of fever and dysentery here and there.

Second Quarter.—The health of people has been generally good during the quarter, except a few cases of fever in some of the villages in the District.

Third Quarter.—The health of the people has been very satisfactory during the quarter.

Fourth Quarter.—The health of the people has been no worse than usual.

Mullaittívu.

First Quarter.—Health of people was indifferent. Fever and dysentery prevailed to some extent, and the food supply was unsatisfactory.

Second Quarter.—Health of people was good during the quarter, though, according to the Mudaliyár's report, there were cases of fever, sore-mouth, and dysentery in the maritime pattus.

Third Quarter.—Health of people was good. There were several cases of dysentery and diarrhœa, which the people attributed to Coast rice, which they are not accustomed to eat. Sore-eyes also prevailed to some extent.

Fourth Quarter.—Health of people was good in October and November ; in December there were many cases of fever owing to the wet weather.

Vavuṇiya-Viláṇkulam.

First Quarter.—Health of people was good.

Second Quarter.—Health of people satisfactory ; no serious illness reported.

Third Quarter.—Health of people has been good.

Fourth Quarter.—Health of people has been on the whole good, notwithstanding the fever which prevailed in December in Chinnacheḍḍikulam, Kilakkumulai, and Panankamam.

MARRIAGES, BIRTHS, AND DEATHS.

District.	Marriages. 1886.	Marriages. 1887.	Births. 1886.	Births. 1887.	Deaths. 1886.	Deaths. 1887.
Jaffna ...	1,082	1,175	7,020	10,038	7,375	5,051
Mannár ...	177	145	862	752	893	768
Mullaittívu ...	41	25	234	277	231	266
Vavuṇiya-Viláṇkulam	33	18	254	267	263	222
Total ...	1,333	1,363	8,370	11,334	8,762	6,307

HEALTH AND CONDITION OF CATTLE.

Jaffna.

Cattle were in general reported healthy throughout the year, except in the divisions of Valikámam north, Valikámam west, and The Islands, where during the second and third quarters they were subject to murrain, introduced by cattle imported from India.

Owing to the drought there was an insufficiency of grass and water till October.

The following is a return of the number of cattle reported to have died in the Jaffna District :—

	Cattle.
Fist Quarter	—
Second Quarter	18
Third Quarter	67
Fourth Quarter	116
	201

The following are extracts from the season reports of the Assistant Government Agents of Mannár, Mullaittívu, and Vavuṇiya-Viláṇkulam, regarding the health of the cattle in those Districts :—

Mannár.

First Quarter.—There has been no cattle disease in the District during the quarter.

Second Quarter.—There has been no cattle murrain during the quarter, except that a few calves died in some of the villages in the Mantaipattu of a kind of disease called "mudichchirukki."

Third Quarter.—There has been no murrain during the quarter, but the cattle have suffered a great deal in many of the villages for want of sufficient water.

Fourth Quarter.—There has been no murrain or cattle disease in the District during the quarter, except a few deaths in the month of October owing to the sudden change of weather from heat to cold.

Mullaittívu.

First Quarter.—Health of cattle was good throughout the quarter. No cases of murrain were reported.

Second Quarter.—Health of cattle was good throughout the District except in Tunukkai, where they suffered from hoof-disease and sore-mouth during April and May. No cases of murrain were reported.

Third Quarter.—Health of cattle is fairly good. No cases of murrain were reported.

Fourth Quarter.—Health of cattle was fairly good, though some weak animals fell victims to the storms in December.

Vavuniya-Vilankulam.

First Quarter.—Health of cattle throughout the District was good except at Puliankulam in Chinnacheddikulam east, where six buffaloes and seven black cattle are reported to have died of murrain in January last.

Second Quarter.—Health of cattle was good.

Third Quarter.—Health of cattle was good, but they suffered from want of pasture.

Fourth Quarter.—Health of cattle has been satisfactory; some cattle died in December owing to the rain on December 17.

IMMIGRATION.

The returns of arrivals and departures of immigrant coolies at and from Pésálai and Vankálai show an increase of 26,020 in arrivals and 5,025 in departures, and at and from the ports of the peninsula of Jaffna an increase of 7 in arrivals. Total arrivals and departures were as follows :—

Pésálai and Vankálai.	1886.	1887.
Arrivals	18,093 ...	44,113
Departures	18,994 ...	24,019
Ports of Jaffna.		
Arrivals	— ...	7
Departures	— ...	—

The usual immigration establishments have been kept up.

In the Administration Report for 1882 I remarked, in reference to the falling off in the tobacco trade with Mátalé, that it was attributed to the decrease in the immigration consequent on the depression in the coffee districts. It appeared by a return attached to that report that the number of immigrants coming by the Government immigrant vessels had fallen off to about half.

Previous to the year of famine (1877) the arrivals used to be annually from 40,000 to 60,000. In 1877, 112,748 came across in the Government vessels, driven over by scarcity of food in India. In 1878 the number of arrivals went down to 61,735. From 1879 the arrivals gradually decreased until in 1883 the number amounted to only 15,557, and the Government was enabled to discharge one of the four vessels employed.

In April, 1887, Mr. Reidy, the Superintendent of Immigration, represented that immigration was on the increase, and that the three vessels were insufficient. In December I travelled down the Mannár-Madawachchi road, and was surprised to see large gangs of coolies just landed from the vessels travelling down the road on their way to the tea estates.

Formerly the season for arrivals used to be from May to September, the south-west monsoon months. Very few coolies used to come from India during the north-east monsoon months, and it was in those months that there were the larger number of departures. On questioning some of the coolies they informed me that matters had changed on the estates since the introduction of tea, and that work was continuous throughout the year on the tea estates, which was not the case on the coffee estates, and that coolies would now be coming in all through the year.

The number of arrivals (44,113) for 1887 given above nearly reaches the average number of arrivals previous to 1876.

Recently (in May, 1888) it has been found necessary to re-engage a fourth vessel.

The arrivals and departures since 1877 are as follows :—

Year.	Arrivals.	Departures.
1877 ...	112,748 ...	31,615
1878 ...	61,735 ...	42,925
1879 ...	48,607 ...	37,936
1880 ...	20,842 ...	33,032
1881 ...	27,867 ...	25,274
1882 ...	26,347 ...	22,489
1883 ...	15,541 ...	20,997
1884 ...	20,513 ...	19,273
1885 ...	23,894 ...	20,410
1886 ...	18,093 ...	18,994
1887 ...	44,101 ...	24,019
1888* ...	13,503 ...	14,662

SALT.

Unlike 1885 and 1886, the season for the manufacture of salt at the Siviatéru pans was very favourable.

There was every prospect of a good collection of naturally-formed salt in the léwáyas at Karanavai, but the formation was destroyed by the rains of June and August, and there was only a very small collection.

For a few years past no naturally-formed salt was collected in the léwáyas at Punakári, Valikámam east, and Tenmarachchi. In 1887, however, owing to favourable weather, a good collection was made in Punakári and small collections in Valikámam east and Tenmarachchi.

The total quantity of salt manufactured and collected during 1887, and the cost per cwt. including cost of removal to stores, &c., were as follows :—

Names of Léwáyas.	Quantity collected.	Cost per Cwt., including removal, &c.
Manufactured.	Cwt.	c.
Siviatéru	65,783	19·07
Self-formed.		
Uppalavan (Punakári)	8,304	26·86
Vellapparavai (Valikámam east)...	3,903	14·94
Karanavai (Vadamarachchi)	2,647	30·66
Aladiyitpallam (Tenmarachchi)	1,638	14·03
Total ...	82,275	

* Up to end of April.

The total charges incurred in the Province during 1887 on account of salt were as follows :—

	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Cost of collecting and storing salt, including charges connected with the Kalpiṭiya salt	24,491	77		
Watching natural formation of salt to prevent illicit collection	934	68		
Destroying salt unfit for collection	110	8		
			25,536	53
Cost of establishment	4,030	0		
Commission to headmen	2,258	15		
Transfer of salt from one store to another within the Province	737	60		
For repairs to salt stores	1,235	7		
All other miscellaneous charges	97	54		
			8,358	36
Total ...	—		33,894	89

The value of salt sold during 1887 was as follows :—

Cwt.	lb.		Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
		For Local Consumption.				
		Amount of the rent of the monopoly of the retail sale in the Jaffna District	52,000	0		
25,942	0	Sold to the renter in Jaffna at 40c. per cwt. ...	10,376	80		
					62,376	80
5,711	0	Sold by retail at Mannár and Mullaittívu at Re 1·99, Re. 1·91, Re. 1·74, Re. 1 66, and Rs. 2·07 per cwt.	10,292	79		
3,288	0	Sold to Fishers and tavalams at Mannár and Mullaittívu at Rs. 2·36 per cwt. ...	7,759	68		
34,941	0				18,052	47
		For Export beyond the Island.				
2,740	0	Naturally formed salt from Tondamannár store, at Rs. 6·50 per ton	—		890	50
		For released Districts.—Nil.				
1	56	Short delivered by transport contractors and paid for at Rs. 2·36 per cwt.	—		3	54
37,682	56	Total ...	—		81,323	31

The receipt and issue of salt during 1887 were as follows :—

	Cwt.	lb.	Cwt.	lb.
Balance on December 31, 1886	10,773	0		
Collected during 1887	82,275	0		
			93,048	0
Received from Kalpiṭiya	—		21,834	0
			114,882	0
Sold for local consumption	34,941	0		
Sold for export beyond the Island	2,740	0		
Wastages and quantity short delivered by contractors ...	437	25		
			38,118	25
Balance on December 31, 1887	—		76,763	87

In reference to the charge incurred on account of salt brought from Kalpiṭiya, I have to remark that, owing to the bad season in 1886 and the impoper conduct on the part of the manufacturers at Siviatéru, many of whom struck work, it was found necessary, as was pointed out in the report for 1886, to apply to Government for authority to obtain salt from Kalpiṭiya.

TIMBER.

The expenditure in 1887 on account of the Forest Department amounted to Rs. 9,411·31 and the revenue from timber to Rs. 8,130·48, leaving timber in stock at the end of the year to the estimated value of Rs. 5,030·50. The timber was mostly put up for sale by public auction at the Jaffna depôt and purchased by traders for export to India. The following is the account of timber sold by public auction :—

No. of Logs.	Description of Timber sold.	Amount for which sold. Rs.	c.		
385	Palai	3,725	44		
90	Satin	1,145	0		
2	Chadavakku	3	0		
2	Tirukkondal	3	0		
1	Piari	1	50		
5	Yavaranai	33	0		
				4,910	94
By sale to Public Works Department		—		1,027	68
By sale to private parties for local purposes ...		—		1,828	24
Royalty on timber felled by private parties ...		—		363	62
	Total ... Rs.			8,130	48

DESTRUCTION OF WILD BEASTS.

There were 125 chetahs and 95 bears killed, for which rewards were paid.

TOTAL VALUE OF TRADE.

Imports and Exports.

The following are statements of trade and of quantity and value of certain articles :—

	1886. Rs.	c.	1887. Rs.	c.
Imports.				
Beyond sea	1,876,724	99	2,714,188	52
Coastwise	967,680	99	1,252,711	39
Total ...	2,844,405	98	3,966,899	91
Exports.				
Beyond sea	1,330,568	27	1,063,266	59
Coastwise	1,235,753	79	1,552,847	92
Total ...	2,566,322	6	2,616,114	51
Total Imports and Exports ...	5,410,728	4	6,583,014	42

	1886. Quantity. Cwt. qr. lb.	Value. Rs. c.	1887. Quantity. Cwt. qr. lb.	Value. Rs. c.
Imports.				
Cotton, thread and twist ...	434 1 12	35,920 0	417 3 16	25,331 90
Cloth (pieces) ...	77,116	70,896 96	96,753	72,063 7
Exports.				
Copperah	1,718 0 0	13,122 0	10,442 0 0	69,821 0
Bêche-de-mer ...	574 0 0	17,547 50	463 1 0	11,885 0
Jaggery	4,266 2 0	14,471 0	6,665 0 0	23,855 0
Palmirah timbers (number)	209,680	53,109 64	245,543	52,193 21

EXPORT OF SALT FISH.

Statement of Salt Fish exported during 1886 and 1887 beyond Sea and Coastwise.

	Beyond Sea. Quantity. Cwt. qr. lb.	Value. Rs. c.	Coastwise. Quantity. Cwt. qr. lb.	Value. Rs. c.
1886 ...	3,539 2 0	12,499 50	21,166 0 0	186,629 25
1887 ...	2,016 1 0	8,674 50	26,654 3 0	233,435 75

EXPORT OF PALMIRAH TIMBER.

The export of palmirah timber was :—

	Number.	Value. Rs. c.
1886	209,680	53,109 64
1887	245,543	52,193 21

EXPORT OF ELEPHANTS.

Number ...	48	Average value ...	Rs. 1,000
Value ...	Rs. 48,000	Royalty ...	„ 4,800

The elephants were captured in the Mannár and Vavuniya-Vilápkulam Districts of the Northern Province and in the Central Province, and brought to Mannár for exportation.

IMPORT AND EXPORT OF CATTLE.

The number of cattle imported and exported was as follows :—

	Imports. Cattle.	Imports. Sheep & Goats.	Exports. Cattle.	Exports. Sheep & Goats.
1886 ...	2,871	13,597	3,126	—
1887 ...	3,705	17,816	2,137	3

PUBLIC WORKS.

The following is an abstract of the expenditure on public works for 1887 :—

Service.	Treasury Money. Rs. c.	Road Ordinance Money. Rs. c.	Total. Rs. c.
By Public Works Department.			
Upkeep of roads	33,540 93	27,273 80	
Inland navigation	1,754 33	1,015 52	
Upkeep of bridges	2,790 26	—	
Irrigation works and upkeep ...	47,216 12	—	
New roads, &c.	1,182 77	—	
Additions and improvements to roads ...	30,807 5	—	
New works and buildings ...	5,398 99	—	
Repairs to buildings	7,183 36	—	
Departmental charges	353 36	—	
Miscellaneous, including deepening and boring wells	2,283 1	—	
Total ...	132,510 18	28,289 32	160,799 50
By Provincial Road Committee.			
Upkeep of roads, &c.	500 0	17,132 72	
Repair of resthouses	—	3,511 28	
For building and repairing wells ...	—	2,323 78	
Total ...	500 0	22,967 78	23,467 78
Carried over ...	—	—	184,267 28

Service.	Treasury Money. Rs. c.	Road Ordinance Money. Rs. c.	Total. Rs. c.
Brought forward ...	— ...	—	184,267 28
By Government Agent.			
Scavenging and sanitary work ...	4,889 97 ...	—	
Deepening wells	1,000 0 ...	—	
Miscellaneous	1,840 0 ...	—	
Total ...	7,729 97	—	7,729 97
			191,997 25

The only new works provided for in the Supply Bill for 1887, and taken in hand and carried to completion during the year, were :—

	Rs.
House for Sub-Collector, Pésálai	2,500
Raising the roadway and building three culverts on the Central road between Elephant Pass and Pallai	1,000
Metalling the North road	5,000

On sums voted in 1886 and revoted for expenditure in 1887, Rs. 607·11 were spent on the purchase of materials for the grain shed, Jaffna Customs, and Rs. 21,993·25 in metalling fourteen miles of the Central road. The work of reconstructing the grain shed, however, was not commenced during the year, prison labour not having been available.

Of the amount of Rs. 55,000 voted in 1885 for repairs to buildings, roads, bridges, &c., damaged by the cyclones of 1884, an amount of Rs. 2,297·41 was brought forward and expended in 1887.

Rs. 353·36 were spent on experimental well-boring at Mannár. Limestone rock was reached at the depth of 74 ft., and the work was stopped as the borer was not, I was informed, suited for boring through rock. I believe good water would be found if the rock were bored through.

Rs. 2,833·52 were spent on the Mannár-Maḍawachchi road in the completion of culverts commenced in 1886 and making approaches to them, and Rs. 1,182·77 on the Mannár causeway, in filling up the gaps in the walls built on approaches to bridges in 1885, and in rendering the approaches passable for carts.

A sum of Rs. 815·23 was spent on erecting a survey tower at Delft.

The balance was expended on improvement and upkeep of existing roads, bridges, buildings, &c., and carrying out to completion works commenced in the previous year.

On Rs. 1,000 allowed to the Government Agent and Rs. 2,210 to the Public Works Department, supplemented by a vote of Rs. 2,323·78 by the Provincial Road Committee, nine new wells were sunk, viz., two at Karaichchi in the Jaffna District, one at Murunkan in the Mannár District, one at Alkattiveli in the Mannár District, one at Nanaddan in the Mannár District, one at Verteltívu in the Mannár District, two at Vengalachettykulam in Vavuṇiya-Viláṇkulam District, one at Tunukkai-Vilakku on the Central road in Mullaittívu District; and the following wells were repaired, viz., twenty-four in the Jaffna District, eight in the Mannár District, one in the Mullaittívu District, four in the Vavuṇiya-Viláṇkulam District; and some additional work was done to the well at the Iranamaḍu resthouse, in which there seems to be now a permanent supply of water, rock having been reached and bored through.

WORKING OF THE GRAIN TAX ORDINANCE.

The Grain Tax Ordinance No. 11 of 1878 has not yet been brought into operation in this Province, and the tax was, as remarked in the report for last year, collected in commutation and rents under the Ordinance No. 14 of 1840.

There was only one sale of land in the Púnakarai division of the Jaffna District for default of payment of commutation, and the land was purchased by a private individual.

WORKING OF THE THOROUGHFARES ORDINANCE.

The Thoroughfares Ordinance No. 31 of 1884 worked satisfactorily during the year.

Nine hundred and thirty-four persons performed labour in 1887 against 516 in 1886, as follows :—

	1886.	1887.
Jaffna	483 ...	584
Mannár	— ...	—
Mullaittívu	33 ...	309
Vavuṇiya-Viláṇkulam ...	— ...	41

Only 10 persons were committed to jail in 1887 against 164 in 1886 and 320 in 1885. The 10 committed to jail were defaulters of the Mullaittívu District. The comparatively large number of persons who worked or went to jail is owing, no doubt, to the failure of crops in that District.

A special report has already been made to Government on the subject of the working of the Thoroughfares Ordinance.

IRRIGATION WORKS.

An amount of Rs. 803·93 was expended in 1887 on the vote of 1885 for increasing the storage capacity and strengthening the bund of Vavuṇiya-Viláṇkulam.

As remarked in the report for last year, the unexpended balances of 1886 were brought forward for expenditure in 1887, of which Rs. 14,112·55 were spent on the restoration of Mamadu, Rs. 2,100·62 on that of Iratperiyakulam, and Rs. 1,203·46 in sluicing the following tanks referred to in last year's report, viz. :—

	Rs. c.
Suduventapulo	269 54
Rasentirankulam	250 35
Sekkadippulo	248 91
Karuvelpuliyankulam	240 94
Nelukkulam	193 72

The following is a list of the irrigation works for which estimates were submitted in 1887, with the amounts sanctioned and expended during this year :—

	Sanctioned. Rs.	Expended. Rs.	c.
Restoration of Mandukkoddai	18,120 ...	14,859	98
Additional works to Vavuṇiya-Viláṇkulam ...	550 ...	546	24
For increased waterway and clearing the ground at front and rear of the Iratperiyakulam spill	980 ...	977	35
Additional spill wall, and strengthening the bund of Mamadu	4,040 ...	4,027	41
Cutting a channel from the spill at Iratperiyakulam and erecting a 45 ft. span timber bridge and embanking the Central road near the 188th mile	6,050 ...	2,575	92
Supplying high-level sluice to Mamadu ...	950 ...	934	84
Sluicing Púvarasankulam	950 ...	857	30
Do. Salambaikulam	950 ...	859	90
Do. Pampaimadu	950 ...	881	91
Do. Tandikulam	950 ...	857	64
Do. Periyakachchalkodi	950 ...	876	85

Rs. 595·50 were spent during the year on Iratperiyakulam and Vavuṇiya-Viláṇkulam on the upkeep estimate and Rs. 744·77 for the following surveys :—

	Sanctioned. Rs.	Expended. Rs.	c.
Surveyed Puttur well	300 ...	26	20
Contour survey, Mandukkoddai ...	165 ...	106	37
Survey of Nantikaddal	100 ...	12	20
Survey and clearing of Nettali-áru dam ...	765 ...	600	0

As in 1886, a sum of Rs. 1,000 was placed at the disposal of the Government Agent for minor irrigation works, and it was spent in the Mannár District in sluicing Putuveli tank, in the Musali pattu, and in providing a high-level sluice to Periya Navetkulam in the Mantai pattu, which was supplied with a low-level sluice in 1886.

The balances unexpended on the estimates for the restoration of Mandukkoddai and for cutting a channel from the spill at Iratperiyakulam were brought forward for expenditure in 1888.

PROPOSALS IN REGARD TO PUBLIC WORKS.

Of the works submitted in the Administration Report for 1886, provision has been made for the following in the Supply Bills for 1887 and 1888, viz.:—

	Rs.
1887.	
For metalling the North road	5,000
House for Sub-Collector, Pésálai	2,500
1888.	
For metalling the North road	5,000
For roadway round reclamation wall, Jaffna	5,600
For Punnalai causeway	40,000*
For grain shed, Kayts	2,000

The following, therefore, would, in my opinion, be the works to be undertaken and carried out to completion during a series of years in the Northern Province, exclusive of irrigation works, viz.:—

	Rs.
Improvement of the Central road	100,000
Improvement of the Mannár-Madawachchi road	61,000
Improvement of the road from Karuppaddaimurippu to Mullaittívu, now called the Mankulám-Mullaittívu road, including cost of repair of bridges washed away by the floods in 1882	50,000
Improvement of the Vavuṇiya-Viláṇkulam-Horawapatana road ...	20,000
Improvement of the road from Vavuṇiya-Viláṇkulam to Parayanalankulam on the Mannár-Madawachchi road	30,000
Restoration of the old Dutch dam road on the north of the peninsula ...	30,000
Improvement of Elephant Pass causeway	30,000
Reclamation of tidal flats in front of Karaiúr, exclusive of prison labour (say)	20,000
Improvement of Mannár causeway	10,000†
Replacing dangerous wooden bridges in the peninsula of Jaffna with substantial iron bridges	200,000
Works in regard to hospitals	25,000
Markets	45,000
Offices for Sub-Collector at Pésálai and Vaṇkálai	5,000
Experiments in regard to artesian wells (say)	5,000
House for Assistant Agent, Mullaittívu	10,000

For wells, an annual vote of from Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 1,500.

Marks on the Mullaittívu shoal and at Point Pedro, and a red light at Kankésanturai.

Professional inspection of the coast between Point Pedro and Valuveḍḍiturai, between Point Pedro and Katkuvalam, and at Kankésanturai.

Water supply for Mannár town.

Regular steam communication between northern ports of Jaffna and southern ports of India.

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* The amount of the estimate sanctioned for this work is Rs. 57,255. Rs. 17,255 will therefore have to be provided for in the Supply Bill for 1889.

† This amount does not include the probable cost of extending the Mannár causeway (as submitted in the Administration Report of 1885) in the form of a bridge as far as Mannár, placing a drawbridge in the middle of the portion across the channel to admit of the passage of vessels.

Irrigation Works.

Owing to damage done by the floods of December, 1887, some additional expenditure is required this year (1888) on the restored tanks, Mamadu, Mandukkottai, Iratperiyakulam, Vavuṇiya-Vilaṇkulam, and on some of the sluiced tanks. The estimates for these works amount to Rs. 7,688.

The tanks Kanakarayankulam, in the Udaiyar-úr pattu of the Vavuṇiya-Viláṇkulam District, and Periakulam, in the Melpattu north pattu of the Mullaittívu District, are being surveyed, and it is proposed to restore the former with the balance available this year.

Excluding the works already completed, or which will probably be completed this year, the following are, in my opinion, the works which should be undertaken and carried out to completion as funds are available :—

Jaffna District.—The scheme for the irrigation of the Karachchi by damming up the waters of the Kanagarayan-áru.

Mannár District.—The restoration of the Giant's tank, or at least of the channels by which it was intended to bring the waters of the Arúvi-áru into the Giant's tank.

Mullaittívu District.—What is called the Nantikaddal scheme, viz., the erection of a dam across the rocky ridge at Vattuvakallu-áru, to keep out the salt water and convert the Nanthikaddal into a fresh-water lake. The restoration of Tannimurippu, if found practicable after survey. Plan and estimate have been made.

Vavuṇiya-Viláṇkulam District.—The restoration of Pavatkulam and the sister tank Periyaolukkulam, Maha-Irambaikkulam, and Vengalachcheḍḍikulam.

The gradual sluicing of village tanks in all the Districts.

The following are the remarks which I made in regard to these works in the Administration Report for 1886 :—

The Karachchi scheme has been fully reported on and estimated for by Mr. Parker. The discovery of a dam since across the Nethali-áru, which I believe to be a part of the ancient scheme for irrigating the Karachchi, may, after its inspection by Mr. Parker, lead to a modification of his scheme, and thus admit of his reducing the cost, which is the chief objection to his scheme being carried out. There is better material available for the construction of a dam near the site of the old than is to be found near the site of the proposed dam.

The restoration of the Giant's tank, or at least of the channels by which it was intended to bring the waters of the Arúvi-áru into the Giant's tank, is a work that should, in any case, I believe, be taken up if the Paumben channel scheme is carried out.

The soil of the District of Mannár is good. It is well suited for paddy, palmirahs, cocoanuts, fruit trees, dry grain, tobacco, and vegetables. All that is required is a regular supply of water for irrigation during the south-west monsoon months and occasionally during the north-east monsoon months when the rains fail. There are in the District extensive grazing grounds for cattle, goats, and sheep. If the Paumben channel scheme be carried out, a market will no doubt be opened for the sale of produce of all sorts from the Mannár District, which could be carried across to Paumben in small native craft at comparatively small cost and in a few hours all the year round.

The Nantikaddal and Tannirmurippu schemes will, if carried out, be sufficient to meet the wants of the Mullaittívu District for some years to come.

If the Pavatkulam and Periaolukulam and Maha Irambaikulam tanks in the Vavuṇiya-Viláṇkulam District be restored, further expenditure on large irrigation works will not, I believe, be required in that District for many years, as provision will have been made for the irrigation of about 10,000 acres of paddy land in the neighbourhood of Vavuṇiya-Viláṇkulam.

The cost of these works will probably amount to :—

	Rs.	Rs.
The Karachchi scheme	1,000,000	
The larger scheme in connection with Giant's tank proposed by Mr. Parker	1,000,000	
The smaller scheme in connection with Giant's tank proposed by Mr. Parker	—	600,000
Nantikaddal dam	30,000	
Restoration of Tannirmurippu	30,000	
Restoration of Pavatkulam and Periyaolukulam ...	60,000	
Restoration of Maha-Irambaikulam	20,000	
Restoration of Periyakulam	10,000	
Kangarayankulam	20,000	
Vengalacheḍḍikulam	20,000	
Total ...	2,190,000 *or*	1,790,000

LEGISLATION.

The following is what I recommended in the Administration Report for 1886, viz. :—

The consolidation of all laws relating to the salt revenue.

The consolidation of all laws relating to intoxicating liquors.

The amendment of the Arrack and Toddy Ordinances.

The amendment of the Toll Ordinance.

The revision of the Schedule System and Thésawalamai and provision for the compulsory registration of all deeds and documents affecting lands.

The revision of the Marriage Ordinance in reference to the judgment of the Supreme Court appearing in Vol. V, No. 3, page 9, of the *Supreme Court Circular*.

The revision and amendment of the Fiscals' Ordinance and the publication of rules and orders for the guidance of the Fiscals.

The consolidation and amendment of the Dead and Live Chanks Ordinances, Nos. 4 and 5 of 1842, and in connection therewith provision for regulating the diving for bêche-de-mer.

ADMINISTRATIVE MEASURES OR PUBLIC WORKS WHICH MOST OCCUPY ATTENTION.

The following is a list as given in last year's report :—

Public Works.

The improvement of the means of communication within the Province and with other

Provinces, more especially the improvement of the Central road, until it is made a really good metalled road.*

The steady carrying out to completion of the proposed irrigation works.

The establishment of hospitals and dispensaries in the more remote divisions of the Province.

In a sanitary point of view, the sinking annually of wells until each village or group of villages is supplied with a good well.

Administrative Measures.

The revision of the Schedule System and of the Thésawalamai and the compulsory registration of all deeds and documents affecting land with a view to checking forgery and rendering titles more secure.

The amendment of the Fiscals' Ordinance.

SANITARY CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

In the report for last year I stated in detail how far the medical requirements of the Province had been met and what in my opinion is still required. The following is an extract from that report :—

In the towns of Jaffna, Mannár, Mullaittívu, and Vavuṇiya-Viláṇkulam, and the western parts of the peninsula of Jaffna, the people are fairly well provided with means within their reach of obtaining treatment for sickness at the central Government hospitals of the several stations, at the Friend-in-Need Society's hospital, at private establishments, at the medical establishment of the American Mission, and from private practitioners.

East and south, however, of Chávakachchéri, in the Pachchilaippai, Punakari, and Karaichchi divisions of the Jaffna District, in the Wanni pattus distant from Mullaittívu and Vavuṇiya-Viláṇkulam, in the maritime pattus of the Mannár District, and in some parts of the island of Mannár, the people are ill provided with means for obtaining treatment, especially during the wet season, when fever prevails to a great extent and communication with the central stations is at times cut off.

The practice now is for the Medical Department, on the report of the occurrence of fever or any other sickness in any of these remote districts, to send a medical practitioner with medicines for distribution.

From what has fallen under my observation, and from what I have heard, I feel satisfied that such a system in many instances does more harm than good. What is required, in my opinion, are hospitals and dispensaries within easy reach of the people, where they can be treated, nursed, and properly attended to by a qualified person. Expensive establishments are not needed for this purpose.

I would again urge the establishment of general hospitals in Punakari, Pallai, and Mantai.

NATURE OF WORK OTHER THAN ROUTINE.

In addition to ordinary routine business I visited different parts of the Province during the year for the purpose of filling up vacancies in the headmen establishment, inspecting grain crops, holding grain rent sales, and on general revenue and inspection duty.

In April, and a part of May, I was engaged at the pearl fishery at Silávaturai.

The arrangement for the celebration of Her Majesty's jubilee in June also occupied some of my time.

In August I attended the meeting of the Government Agents in Colombo, and on my return made an inspection of the dam across the Nettali-áru, supposed to be a part of the ancient scheme for irrigating the Karaichchi, concerning which I have made a special report.

In October I proceeded to Vavuṇiya-Viláṇkulam to inquire into charges preferred against the head clerk of the Vavuṇiya-Viláṇkulam kachchéri, and in November to Silávaturai to give instructions regarding the arrangements for the pearl fishery of 1888. From Silávaturai I made a circuit of a greater part of the Mannár District, returning to Jaffna by Madavachchi and Vavuṇiya-Viláṇkulam.

As remarked in the report for last year, the enforcement of the rules framed under the Irrigation Ordinances engaged much of my attention, as also the inspection of the irrigation works in progress in the Province.

CRIME AND CATTLE STEALING.

Though no very serious crimes were reported during the year, assaults with violence, house-breaking, and petty thefts were of more frequent occurrence than usual.

Two cases of homicide and one rather serious case of breaking into a temple at Chávakachchéri were tried before the Supreme Court. In the two cases of homicide two accused were convicted and sentenced to eighteen months' rigorous imprisonment, and in the temple robbery case four accused were each sentenced to rigorous imprisonment for five years.

The accused in custody, nine in number, on account of the brutal double murder committed at the Kandaswamy temple in November, 1886, were indicted at the second sessions of the Supreme Court for the murder of one of the victims. Before the trial one was discharged on the motion of the Crown Counsel. Of the eight that were tried two were convicted and sentenced to death, but the sentence was subsequently commuted to rigorous imprisonment for twenty years. Two of the principal accused in that case have not as yet been arrested.

As regards cattle-stealing, I made the following remarks in the report for 1886 :—

Although I believe cattle-stealing prevails to some extent, more especially in the remote parts of the Province, where the natural features of the country afford facilities for the removal of cattle without detection, it is by no means so prevalent as it was some years ago. The Assistant Government Agent of Vavuṇiya-Viláṇkulam attributes this in a great measure to the enforcement of the system of cattle-sale certificates, which, if strictly carried out everywhere, he believes would be an almost absolute check on cattle-stealing. It has been enforced in this Province for some time. What is required now is that the payment of a fee to the police vitánais for granting cattle sale certificates should be legalised.

EVENTS OF INTEREST OR IMPORTANCE.

Visit of His Excellency the Governor.—His Excellency the Governor, accompanied by Dr. Kynsey, Principal Civil Medical Officer, Captain Christopher, Aide-de-camp, and Mr. Gordon, Private Secretary, visited the Province in July. The Governor and party arrived at Vavuṇiya-Viláṇkulam on the night of July 27, and reached Jaffna on the evening of July 28.

* There is only a distance of 20 miles yet to be metalled over, and it is very desirable that this should be taken in hand without delay.

July 29.—At Jaffna. Inspection of bazaar, &c. Visited St. Patrick's College in the afternoon, and in the evening went to the headmen's pandal at the Fort, where His Excellency received a deputation of the Railway Committee and had an interview with the headmen.

July 31.—Sunday.

August 1.—Went by boat to Fort Halmanhiel. Landed on return at Kayts and inspected the Customs, court-house, bazaar, &c. Went on to the Punnalai causeway and thence returned to Jaffna after visiting the Mission establishment at Batticotta.

August 2.—At Jaffna. Inspection of Government offices, &c., and visit to the Wesleyan and Church Mission schools.

August 3.—Visit to the Convent, St. Martin's Ecclesiastical Seminary, and St. Joseph's Orphanage, and reception of visitors.

August 4.—To Point Pedro, visiting the Uduvil Mission establishment, and embarked on board the Serendib in the evening after visiting a pandal, where there was an interesting exhibition of the various products of the peninsula, of goldsmiths, cloth-weavers, dyers, potters, &c., working at their trades, and of the process followed in the husking of paddy and in the manufacture of punaṭṭu, &c.

Pearl Fishery.—On information received by telegram from Captain Donnan, who was on inspection duty at Silávaturai, on March 17, that the pearl oysters on some of the banks were fast dying off, preparations were at once made with the sanction of Government for a pearl fishery. The fishery was closed in May, the wind having set in from the south-west. The revenue derived from the sale of oysters amounted to Rs. 396,626·07 A special report was at the close of the fishery forwarded to Government.

An inspection of the pearl banks was made in November and a fishery advertised for 1888.

The Queen's Jubilee.—Her Majesty's jubilee was celebrated throughout the Province on June 28, and in Jaffna itself the festivities were carried on during the 28th, 29th, and 30th. Full reports of the jubilee celebrations have been sent in.

The Papal Jubilee.—The Papal jubilee was celebrated by the Roman Catholics in the Northern Province on December 8.

Detention of ss. Serendib.—The ss. Serendib, which left Colombo on December 13 on her way round north-about, grounded in the Paumben channel and was delayed there for a week.

Annexed are copies of diary entries on the following subjects :—

A.—Sifting of remains of ancient fisheries for pearls.
B.—Cooly immigration.
C.—Ruins at Tirukechuram in Mantai.
D.—Floods in Wanni.
E.—State of cooly sheds and resthouses, &c.
F.—Elephants in the low jungles round Elephant Pass.

Jaffna Kachchéri,
July 13, 1888.

W. C. TWYNAM,
Government Agent.

Extracts from Diary.

A.—Sifting of Remains of Ancient Fisheries for Pearls.

November 30.—From the encampment of the fishermen turned into the jungle by a narrow path to the ruins from which, as I learnt yesterday, the Mullikulam people got the stone for their church. Came first on a small pond, which I believe must have been a "pokkanai." Close by are the ruins of an ancient Buddhist establishment from which stone has been quarried for the church at Mullikulam. The ruins are on high ground, and the ancient monastery must have overlooked the Bay and the site of the ancient pearl fisheries. The Buddhist establishment was probably destroyed by the Tamils, who erected (may be) a temple on the ruins and converted one of the stone pillars into what I believe to be a "lingam," now in the compound of the church at Mullikulam. This is, however, mere surmise. There is neither Buddhist monastery nor Hindu temple now ; only the ruins of the former buried in thick scrubby jungle, which renders any inspection of them impossible. In reference to the position of these ruins as marking the site of buildings connected, very probably, with the ancient pearl fisheries, I think they should be thoroughly explored, as stones with inscriptions of some interest regarding matters concerning the pearl banks and fisheries might be found.

On the seaside, and on the left bank of the Modragam river for some distance at the foot of the rising ground on which are the ruins, there are mounds of pearl oyster shells, the remains of forgotten fisheries ; the only information regarding which I could get was that they took place in the time of Queen Alli Arasany. On one of these mounds overlooking the river we came on eight women of Mullikulam, sifting the sand for pearls ! On looking round I found that this operation had been recently carried on on several of the mounds. The Aḍigár explained to me "that the people of Mullikulam are in the habit of sifting the sand and dust on these mounds for pearls. The pearls (mostly seed pearls somewhat discoloured by long exposure) are purchased by some Moorish traders from India, who give the women a rupee for a rupee in weight of pearls. This is the price now. A short time ago the price paid was two rupees for a rupee weight of pearls. At the present price a woman can earn 25 cents a day if she works all day. The women are constantly employed sifting the sand now. They commenced doing so two or three years ago."

I purchased from the women what they had collected to-day, 2½ manjadies, the value of which at the present price would be 25 cents. I gave them a rupee for them.

Although I know that the remains of former fisheries in the Dutch and British times between Arippu and Silavaturai were year after year for many years sifted and resifted with some profit to the sifters, I was astonished to see sifting going on on these mounds, the remains of a fishery which must have taken place over a century (perhaps several centuries) ago, and to learn that this sifting enabled those engaged in it to earn, if they chose, the hire of a labourer or nearly so.

December 5.—Came to the supervisor's house at Arippu by road. Near Pulipancha-odai saw a number of Moor women and girls sifting sand for pearls on the heaps of oyster-shells, the remains, I believe, of the fishery of 1814. They showed us the pearls they had sifted out, about two manjadies. The colour was better than that of the Pookulum (Modaragam) pearls. The women said they were getting from the traders a rupee and a half for a rupee in weight of pearls.

B.—Cooly Immigration.

May 19.—Saw several gangs of coolies on their way to, and returning from, the tea estates. Immigration has increased considerably this year and seems to be once more something like what it was in the coffee days.

Obtained the following information from some coolies resting at Chettykulam-áru who were going to a tea estate. The work on a estate is easier than the work on a coffee estate. A tea bush yields about 3 lb. of green leaves which dry down to 1 lb.

A kankáni of a gang resting here this morning informed me that there were plenty of coolies coming across

C.—RUINS AT TIRIKECHURAM IN MANTAI.

May 22.—Reached this at about 10 P.M. after a long round.

From Mantai went first to the site of the ruins of the ancient temple Tirikechuram; then inspected the tank or pond Palavikkulam, the bund of which is breached and the repair of which was recommended by Mr. Boake; then inspected the bund of Periyanavetkulam, and the sluice recently put in it under the superintendence of the Aḍigár of Musali; then went up to Pálaikuli and Nilasénai to inspect the new well; then to Adampan, and from Adampan to Parappukadantan to inspect road and well; returned to Alkáttiveli, turned off at Andankulam, and came by minor road from Vidatteltívu to Parappankandal, and from Vidatteltívu to this.

The ruins of the ancient temple (Tirikechuram) should, I think, be explored, and the matter is one I believe deserving the attention of Government. The tradition is that the temple was as large as the one at Ramésuram and was held in as great veneration by the Hindus, who made pilgrimages to it from all parts of India as they now do to the temple at Ramésuram.

The Portuguese, it is said, destroyed the temple and built the Mantai church with the materials, and this is borne out by the discovery lately of some stone images in the foundation of the old church, which was built, I believe, on a part of the site of the old temple. Some Roman Catholic churches in Mantai were also, it is said, built of the materials of the temple. For years past people have been groping amongst the ruins for coins, gems, precious stones, jewellery, the remains of the riches of the ancient temple. The Aḍigár of Mantai recently found a gold coin which he gave to Mr. Byrde, and to-day we found a copper coin, some pieces of cinnamon stone, and some pieces of old pottery. Applications were made by the late Subadar Vayittilingam of the Mounted Orderlies, the late Mr. Thambayah of Colombo, and the manager of the Kandaswamy temple, Jaffna, and the mail coach proprietor, Asaipillai of Jaffna, for the purchase of the site of the ancient temple. The Subadar and Mr. Thambayah said they wanted to restore the temple. The manager of the Kandaswamy temple and the proprietor of the mail coach also gave out that they wanted to restore the temple. It was however said that the manager and coach proprietor only wanted to search for hidden treasures, gems, &c. After some correspondence with Government the site was put up for sale at an upset price of Rs. 2,000, with certain conditions regarding any gems, precious stones, jewels, images, inscriptions, &c., that might be found. On the day of sale nobody would bid, and application was made to me to recommend a reduction of the upset price to Rs. 1,000, which I refused to do. I have now come to the opinion from what I saw to-day that Government should not dispose of the site until it has been thoroughly explored under the supervision of some competent person.

It strikes me, from the view I obtained of the mounds in the neighbourhood of the Mantai resthouse, that there is some truth in the tradition regarding the temple, and that the mounds mark the line of the old building, which was in the form of a large quadrangle enclosing two sacred tanks like the Ramésuram temple; that the resthouse and old Dutch or Portuguese church are on a portion of what was the temple; and that the tank was one of the tanks within the quadrangle. The breach in the bund of the pond is, I believe, really a breach cut through the foundation of the ancient temple purposely to let the salt water in and desecrate it, and was one of the modes of destruction adopted.

In front of the Mantai resthouse are some images recently found in the foundation of the old church, and in the resthouse compound is an inscribed stone partly broken. I would recommend the site of the ancient temple being cleared and surveyed. I would also recommend the bund on Palavikulam being repaired. The cost, however, will be nearer Rs. 1,000 than Rs. 200 as estimated by Mr. Boake.

December 7.—Sent all our coolies out in the morning under the supervision of the Adigárs of Musali and Mantai to search amongst the ruins of Tirikechuram for coins, pieces of pottery, bangles, beads, &c. In the afternoon Mr. Saxton and I joined in the search for some time. Found some copper coins, two small gold beads some glass beads, pieces of pottery, slag, crystals, &c., which were picked up on the ruins, and despatched to Messrs. Bell (Secretary, Asiatic Society) and Nevill (Editor of the *Taprobanian*).

The following is Mr. Boake's diary entry regarding Palavikulam :—

"Went round to see what it would cost to repair the breach in the tank. It could be done well for Rs. 200, and the expense of watching and destroying formations of salt would be saved, besides removing a strong temptation to theft. Instead of a salt marsh there would be a fresh water tank, which would retain water nearly through the dry season—a boon for the cattle and a great improvement to the look of the place, to say nothing of the climatic effect."

D.—FLOODS IN WANNI.

December 24.—Reached this yesterday evening in the midst of heavy rain. After inspecting with Mr. Saxton the cooly sheds, hospitals, and bazaar at Mannár, I left in the afternoon of the 18th, reaching Morungan, where I stopped for the night, at about 8 P.M. The day was fairly clear with only occasional squalls of rain, but heavy rain set in again and it has rained heavily, and I may say almost continuously, ever since, rendering travelling exceedingly difficult. The tiles on the roofs of the cooly sheds leaked like sieves, the rain oozing through them. Writing was simply impossible, and I am now writing up the diary from pencil notes made by me as best I could. The country is flooded and several tanks have burst. I have never seen the country so flooded before. The road near Morungan was under water for some distance. At Yakawęwa the rush of water over the ván had washed away the road, and I would have found it impossible to get the carts on had not the Moorish boutique-keepers of Mankulam kindly come on with me to get the carts across the breaches in the road there and at Irambaikulam, the bund of the tank there having burst, and the torrent from the breach having scooped out the road. Vengalachcheḍḍikulam was full, and the water from the ván was rushing in a broad stream through the village, flooding some of the compounds; the water had gone over the top of the bund, but it had gone down one foot when I saw the tank, the people having cut the bund to prevent its being breached. I had never seen that tank full before: it looked like a lake, and the people told me that the water reached back three miles into the jungle. The people asked for a sluice. I think the tank might be restored with advantage.

On arrival at Madawachchi, on the 22nd, I was told that no tappals had come from Colombo for three days, and that the Jaffna tappals to Colombo had been delayed two days, owing to the approaches to the bridge at Manelâru near Rambewa having been washed away by the bursting of some tanks. Early yesterday morning three tappals came from Anurádhapura to Madawachchi.

The bund of Poonawe, on the Central road, ten miles from this, had been breached, and some Siṇhalese whom we met near Poonawe informed me that 14 tanks in the neighbourhood had been breached. I could get no information from them regarding Iratperiyakulam and the other restored tanks near Vavuṇiya-Viláṇkulam.

I had intended to have gone to the top of the rocky hill at the head of the bund of Iratperiyakulam, on which there is a trigonometrical station, in order to get a view of the country when under flood. I was prevented, however, by a blinding rain which set in as I neared the village, and which also prevented my inspecting the bund as I had wished to do on my way here instead of having to return to do so. When passing the village, however, I was informed that Mr. Fowler had just returned to Vavuṇiya-Viláṇkulam after inspecting the bund on a report that it had been breached, and when I reached the site of the new bridge across the old spill-channel I met Mr. Supiramaniar, the Superintending Officer, and the Raṭémahatmayá, on their way to the tank. They informed me that the bund had not been breached, but that a portion of it had slipped. I returned with them by the spill channel and across the spill to the bund. Mr. Fowler had cut through the bund near the spill to relieve the strain on the bund. The water was rushing through the opening and round the end of the bund at the spill, the greater part of it flowing down to the old breach channel and comparatively little down the old spill channel. About one-third of the length of the bund from the spill there was a slip on the tank side about 50 ft. long at the site of an old breach; some pioneers and villagers were at work throwing in earth. The rest of the bund seemed to be in good order. The spill should be lengthened so as to take in the cutting made by Mr. Fowler, and the old channel should be properly restored and water from the spill made to flow down it instead of working round the bund into the

breach channel; the bund must be properly repaired and puddled at the site of the slip. Left Mr. Suppiramaniar and the Raṭémahatmayá at Iratperiyakulam and came on to this. The road where the new bridge is being erected across the old spill channel is under water. I hope the officers of the Public Works Department are now satisfied that a bridge was necessary there, and that the roadway required raising for some distance on each side of it.

Mr. Fowler met me on arrival and informed me that it was reported that there was a slip in the bund of Mamadu and one in the bund of Mandukotta. This morning Mr. Fowler drove me to Mandukotta, the bund of which we inspected. There is a slip at the site of an old breach as at Iratperiyakulam, but not on the tank side; the earth has slipped into the old breach pit, which ought to have been filled up. The work on the bund has not been completed, and the water is running out through an old breach which is to be connected with the high-level spill. The spill at this tank also requires improvement. It should be lengthened and the channel cleared, so as to allow a free flow of the surplus water. I cannot understand why the Public Works Department will not provide for sufficient spills in the tanks restored by them. What possible objection can the officers of that Department have to providing spills of sufficient length to render the tanks safe during heavy floods, such as that of this year? From what I am told it seems to be very fortunate that additional spill was provided at Mamadu on the representation of Mr. Fowler and myself. Vavuṇiya-Viláṇkulam has sufficient spill now, but Iratperiyakulam and Mandukotta have not.

The tank at Vavuṇiya-Viláṇkulam now reaches back as far as Irambaikulam, and the Irambaikulam fields and the road are under water. Mr. Fowler proposes giving the Irambaikulam people another tank and fields at a nominal lease, as the Irambaikulam fields cannot be cultivated when the Vavuṇiya-Viláṇkulam tank is full. This might be allowed.

Some improvement and raising are required near the last boutique site on the Horawapotana road, where the water of the tank now goes over the road and swamps the boutique site recently sold by Government. Returned to the Assistant Government Agent's residence at about 2 P.M. Heavy rain again to-day.

E.—State of Cooly Sheds and Resthouses.

December 25.—I would strongly recommend the whole of the cooly sheds and hospitals being covered with Cannanore tiles. The woodwork of these buildings is still good, and if covered with Cannanore tiles would last many years yet, except as regards the reepers, which must be renewed. The ooze through the tiles must tend to rot the timber besides rendering the buildings uninhabitable.

Matters are changing in regard to immigration since the introduction of tea in place of coffee, and the coolies instead of returning to India in small gangs during the rainy season are now beginning to come in large numbers during the rainy season, owing, as they informed me, to work on tea estates going on during the whole year. During the time of coffee they used to come in shiploads between May and September, and after September the arrivals fell off; the sheds were consequently little used by the coming gangs during the dry south-west monsoon months. Now, however, large gangs are coming in in November and December, and the sheds were every night crowded while I was on the road, about 500 to 600 immigrants having come across between the 17th and 20th. A shed to serve as a kitchen should also be provided at each shed. I think that all that is required might be done for Rs. 10,000.

Elephant Pass, December 29.—Reached this late in the afternoon. Rain almost all the way from Vavuṇiya-Viláṇkulam. Yesterday there was a gleam of sunshine for a short time in the forenoon at Panichankulam. The rain, however, set in again in a short time, and there was a heavy downpour at Iranaimadu this morning. Writing was out of the question owing to the ooze through the tiles. All the resthouses and the buildings at Vavuṇiya-Viláṇkulam should be covered with Cannanore tiles; they are now in wet weather almost uninhabitable.

The weather seems now to have cleared and the sun was shining brightly on my arrival here.

I left Vavuṇiya-Viláṇkulam in the afternoon of the 26th, after inspecting with Mr. Fowler the bazaar, wells, hospital, resthouse, madam, and the tank. Settled with him on a site for a mosque and a change in the direction of the circular road between the spill of the tank and the bazaar, rendered necessary by the restoration of the tank. Also fixed on some new boutique sites and laid out a plan for the extension of the town southwards.

There are three leaks in the bund of Vavuṇiya-Viláṇkulam which should be stopped. One is near the old sluice. I learnt to my astonishment that there was no puddle-trench along the bund of the tank, hence the leaks. I thought a puddle-trench had been provided for. There is a breach in the low-level spill channel, through which the water has been pouring in a torrent over the fields doing some damage. This should be repaired. The water in the tank had gone down considerably when we inspected it; it was about 5 in. below the high-level spill and was just flowing over the low-level spill. Settled with Mr. Fowler how much of the encroachment on the bund near the high-level spill should be removed, and gave orders that it was to be removed at once.

The road has been washed away in some places, but has on the whole stood out against the flood much better than I expected. More culverts and small bridges are required between Iranaimadu and this. The road is in very fair order. I am of opinion that a very great mistake has been made in reducing the quantity of metal originally estimated for. It was not a bit too much. The surface had been washed off the approaches to the bridge across the Notchimoddai-áru (the stream from the old breach and spill at Mamadu). The water appeared to me to have gone over the bridge, showing what a deep and heavy torrent there must have been from the tank during the flood. It is fortunate additional spill was provided.

Before leaving Vavuṇiya-Viláṇkulam I was informed by Mr. Fowler that he had received information that Mamadu and Iratperiyakulam were safe.

F.—Elephants in the Low Jungle round Elephant Pass.

December 30.—A herd of elephants are in the low jungle of the Peninsula round Elephant Pass having crossed over from the mainland. I could not ascertain how many there were in the herd. The coach driver informed me that they come in the night on the road near Elephant Pass, and wander about the scrub on the sides of it, returning to the thicker jungle in the neighbourhood of Pass Beschutter at daybreak. The road and jungle about a mile this side of Elephant Pass were covered with their dung and footprints.

APPENDIX.

A.—The estimated produce of dry grain of the Jaffna District and the amounts realised by the scale of rents were as follows:—

	1886. Bushels.	1887. Bushels.
Produce deduced from rents... ...	264,819	221,940
Amount of Rents—	Rs.	Rs.
Varaku	7,930	2,987
First Quarter	2,153	1,368
Second Quarter	3,102	3,149
Third Quarter	20,812	21,191
Fourth Quarter	9,442	9,870
Total ...	43,439	38,565

B.—Customs.

The average revenue for the six years from 1870 to 1875 was Rs. 151,197; from 1876 to 1881 was Rs. 180,643; from 1882 to 1887 was Rs. 153,929.

The increase in the third period over the first is equal to about 2 per cent., and the decrease in the third period over the second is equal to about 14 per cent.

C.—Monopoly of Arrack and Toddy Rents.

	1886-87. Rs. c.	1887-88. Rs. c.
Arrack and Toddy Rents—		
Jaffna	37,000 0	37,000 0
Mannár	11,000 0	15,000 0
Mullaittívu	3,650 0	3,800 0
Vavuṇiya-Vilánkulam ...	4,500 0	4,524 0
Total ...	56,150 0	60,324 0
Sale of Arrack (unrented)—		
Jaffna	57 96	—
Mannár	156 80	2,517 76
Total ...	56,364 76	62,841 76

D.—Statement of Receipts and Expenditure on account of Timber for 1887.

RECEIPTS.	Amount. Rs. c.	Total. Rs. c.
Amount of arrears recovered on account of timber sold in previous years	—	
Amount of timber felled without license and confiscated ...	—	
Amount of timber issued to Public Departments	1,027 68	
Amount of timber sold by public auction and by private sales ...	6,739 18	
Royalty on timber felled by private parties	363 62	
Value of timber destroyed by cultivators		8,130 48*a*
Estimated Value of Timber in hand on December 31.		
84 logs of palai ...	742 0	
1 palai branch ...	3 0	
7 sawn pieces of palai ...	7 0	
12 logs of satinwood ...	120 0	
6 logs of yavaranai ...	45 0	
10 logs of ebony ...	100 0	
Lying in Temporary Forest Depôts:—		
358 logs of palai ...	3,580 0	
2 palai branches ...	6 0	
40 logs of satinwood ...	400 0	
5 satinwood branches ...	10 0	
1 log of othy ...	10 0	
1 log of ayil ...	7 50	
		5,030 50
Total ...	—	13,160 98

EXPENDITURE.	Amount. Rs. c.	Total. Rs. c.
Pay of Forester ...	3,500 0	
Travelling allowance of Forester	500 0	
Pay of Assistant Forester ...	1,000 0	
Pay of peon ...	175 64	
Pay of eight coolies, &c. ...	676 39	
For felling and transport of timber	3,299 87	
Value of stationery ...	19 41	
Pay of kankany ...	240 0	
		9,411 31*b*
Estimated value of cut timber in hand in the various depôts ...		5,030 50
		14,441 81
Deduct the difference of *a* and *b*		1,280 83
Total ...		13,160 98

E.—Memorandum of Duty on Licenses issued for fishing Live Chanks during 1886 and 1887.

	1886. Number.	1886. Amount of Duty. Rs. c.	1887. Number.	1887. Amount of Duty. Rs. c.
Jaffna.				
Boats ...	57	142 50	35	87 50
Tindals ...	57	231 0	35	105 0
Divers ...	449	1,788 0	284	852 0
Mannár.				
Boats ...	6	65 0	33	82 50
Tindals ...	26	58 50	31	241 50
Divers ...	72	162 0	158	1,211 25
Total for the Province.				
Boats ...	63	207 50	68	170 0
Tindals ...	83	289 50	66	346 50
Divers ...	521	1,950 0	442	2,063 25

F.—Memorandum of Royalty on Dead Chanks for 1886 and 1887.

	Number of Dead Chanks.	Value. Rs. c.	Amount of Royalty. Rs. c.
1886 ...	1,576,641	19,527 39	3,905 57
1887 ...	2,481,831	30,932 60	6,186 52

N.B.—There is no revenue under this head in any other District but Jaffna.

G.—Number of Personal Processes received during the five years ended 1887.

1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.
56,081	57,034	61,555	56,882	57,043

The particulars for 1887 are as follows :—

District Court, Jaffna ...	7,825
Court of Requests, Jaffna ...	5,478
Fiscal's Office and other Courts	34,968
Court of Requests, Point Pedro	2,233
Do. Mallákam	2,484
Do. Kaits ...	1,914
Do. Chavakachchéri	1,964
Other Provinces ...	162
Writ against person ...	15
Total ...	57,043

H.—Return of Immigrant Coolies going to and returning from Puttalam, &c., by the Coast road through Silávaturai and Marichikatti during 1887.

Going towards Puttalam :—		Returning from Puttalam :—	
Men ...	5,669	Men ...	5,135
Women ...	1,753	Women ...	1,724
Children ...	833	Children ...	897
Total ...	8,255	Total ...	7,756

Total arrivals and departures—16,011.

REPORT ON THE MANNÁR DISTRICT FOR 1887.

INTRODUCTORY.

THE failure of the monsoon rains in November and December caused evil forebodings as to the rice harvest, which were verified, but any thing like famine was averted by the discovery that the oysters on the Motaragam and Chéval Paars were ready to be fished. The pearl fishery gave employment and thereby means to procure imported rice, and the relief works which I instituted in February were discontinued.

A protracted drought caused some suffering, but there was no outbreak of disease either among the people or their flocks and herds.

The dark cloud of apprehension which brooded over the District in January and February began to show its silver lining in March, when it became known that pearls were to be delved for, and passed away with a golden tinge later on, illumined by the sheen not only of silvery pearls, but of yellow corn in the pregnant womb of the coming year.

REVENUE.

The revenue has improved and shows signs of continuing to do so, for not only is there a prospect of good crops in 1888, but also a well-founded hope of successful pearl fisheries for some years to come. It must not be forgotten, however, that the prosperity which is now promised cannot be lasting until, by the construction of supply channels and sufficient reservoirs for water, the means of developing agricultural industry and so averting disastrous famine are provided ; and I do hope that it will be found possible to devote some of the wealth procured from our seas to the furtherance of this object. I hope also that wiser counsels may prevail in some of the Irrigation Boards, and that no more money will be frittered away in putting expensive masonry works into small tanks.

The gross revenue amounted to Rs. 80,712·91, omitting pearl fishery receipts which are not brought to account by me. This is the largest collection since 1880, as appears from the subjoined comparative statement, and only falls short of the collection of that year by Rs. 124·91 :—

1880. Rs.	1881. Rs.	1882. Rs.	1883. Rs.	1884. Rs.	1885. Rs.	1886. Rs.	1887. Rs.
80,837·49	79,572·6	66,679·59	67,698·37	57,322·08	61,269·10	67,456·89	80,712·91

The value of Telegraph stamps sold during the year was Rs. 1,293·44, which do not appear in the above total. Postage stamps realised Rs. 1,255·08½, but they have ceased to be accounted for by me, and do not appear either in my total for last year.

As a matter of fact, therefore, the revenue of 1887 was the largest since the severance of the Wanni from Mannár. The average of the twenty-four years preceding that severance is only Rs. 78,786.

An examination of details shows an increase under every head of revenue except *Land Sales*, *Special Receipts*, and *Land Revenue*, due to the fact that no land had been surveyed for sale, and to the failure of the paddy crop.

EXPENDITURE.

We spent Rs. 100,477·50, a trifle in excess of 1886 ; but beside the other items which in my report for 1886 I showed should not be debited, is that on account of the Pearl Fishery.

Expenditure by the Public Works Department was restricted, and little was done but patching up the work of previous years.

AREA.

There is a question now as to the exact boundary between Mannár and the North-Central Province, but the area must be somewhere about 436 square miles.

WEATHER.

There was a slight fall of rain in March, too late to save the crops, but just in time to fill the tanks at Silávaturai and to prevent any difficulty there on account of water during the pearl fishery; but little or no summer rain fell after this, and there was considerable distress in the villages and Mannár town in consequence, and the cattle were reduced to a miserable condition; but the north-east rains came in time and not in too great volume at first, so that the cattle gradually recovered strength and were able to withstand the heavy and, so far as records go, unprecedented downpour of December, which measured 23·05 inches. This record is only topped by 23·72 in October, 1885, which was the greatest fall for fifteen years.

The Arúvi-áru rose higher than it had been known to do by the oldest inhabitant, and the tanks were all filled; but, owing to the steady attention given of late years to the upkeep of the village tanks, comparatively few were breached, and those so slightly that they were almost immediately repaired and the water saved for cultivation.

RELIGION.

Some of the adherents of the priests of Goa still withhold submission to the Supreme Pontiff and refuse to hand over to his accredited representative the property of the Holy Catholic Church. These poor people are consequently without the ministrations of priests. In a recent circuit at Parapankandal I was informed that a definite decision would be arrived at by Easter as to what was to be done. The fine church at this place is in the meantime becoming dangerous for want of repair.

I have ascertained that the information quoted in my report for 1886, to the effect that mud from the neighbourhood of the church at Slena Marutha Madu was sold by the priests, is not correct, and I desire to express my regret that I should have given publicity to an incorrect report.

The Rev. T. Mortimer of the Church of England died, and no priest has taken his place, as the salary died with him.

The Mohammedan religion is holding its own, and its followers are increasing in greater proportion, as I have elsewhere shown, than others.

EDUCATION.

There were no new schools opened during the year. Unsuccessful endeavours were made to induce the Mohammedans to fulfil the conditions necessary to get a Government school.

ARCHÆOLOGY.

No fresh discovery has been made, but the finding of a copper coin at Tirukesaram by Mr. Saxton, which Mr. H. C. P. Bell describes "Bactrian, I think ..... certainly Greek." It is under contemplation, I believe, to allow a grant for the survey and systematic exploration of the ruins of Tirukesaram.

ESTABLISHMENT.

Being appointed to act at Hambantota, Mr. Saxton relieved me here from June to the end of the year.

The Medical Officer was transferred to another station and succeeded by an officer with British qualifications, Mr. S. L. Anthonisz.

Mr. Gratiaen of the Public Works Department went, and Inspector C. Sabapathy came in his place.

Mr. Simpson of the Post and Telegraph Service went to Colombo to act for Mr. Hurley, his place here being taken by Mr. Thwaites.

Mr. More of the Survey Department concluded the triangulation of the District and connected the same with the Indian system. A junior member of the same Service surveyed lands for sale and settlement.

AGRICULTURE.

Two-thirds of the rice crop perished, and the tobacco crop suffered for want of water.

The usual work was performed on the bunds, and defaulters fined. The provisions of the Ordinance have been enforced for the first time on the bunds within the Giant's tank in accordance with my recommendation, and, to judge by the tanks I have myself visited, a good deal of earth-work was done.

Mr. Saxton experimented with a "Cingalee" plough with the following result according to the estimate of the headmen: one plot gave an increase of eleven-fold and another of fifteen, but I regard their estimates as false, and regret that I was unable to personally ascertain the facts.

The seasonable autumnal rain enabled extensive cultivation to be undertaken. The extent sown would have been greater but for the deficiency of seed paddy. The rice and tobacco crops promise well for 1888.

The cultivation of the cocoanut is steadily increasing in the places suitable to its growth, chiefly in the island, where there are now a few valuable estates, one of which, now in litigation, is said to be rented for Rs. 1,500 per annum.

FISHERIES.

This is said to have been a more favourable year for the fishers, and the statement is borne out by the fact of the larger sale of salt wholesale and quantity of cured fish exported.

The chank fishery was a good one, but the larger revenue from this source is partly due to the exaction of enhanced fees for licenses.

The usual curing of bechè-de-mer was carried on, but the successful pearl fishery, unexpected as welcome, was the great event of the year, not excepting the celebration of the Queen's Jubilee or

that of His Holiness the Pope, contributing as it did Rs. 350,000 clear to the general revenue, not to speak of the increased receipts from nearly all other sources of revenue or the relief which it afforded to the people, who otherwise would have experienced very hard times indeed.

TRADE.

I have unfortunately not got the figures for the port of Silávaturai, but the value of the imports and exports of the other ports was Rs. 694,455, as compared with Rs. 543,285 in the previous year, and are sufficient to show the increased activity in the shipping trade, due partly to the demand for imported grain consequent on the poor harvest, but principally to the requirements of the pearl fishery, which changed Silávaturai from an insignificant fishing-village to a busy town of several thousand people from all parts of Ceylon and India.

The number of elephants exported was 35, valued at Rs. 15,100. This beats the export of 1886, but it is a mistake to suppose that they are all captured in this Province. By far the greater number come from Uva and the Eastern Province.

PUBLIC WORKS AND BUILDINGS.

(1) The north-east corner of the Fort and sentry-box were repaired.

(2) A house for the Sub-Collector at Pésálai was built.

(3) Borings for a well were made in Mannár town and rock reached at a depth of 74 ft., but the machinery was inadequate and the work has been stopped. The rock reached is limestone of similar character to that on the mainland, in which good water is found.

(4) The bad work on the Yakávai-Pésálai causeway and other estimates which I refused to certify was patched up.

(5) Some culverts on the road at Silávaturai were made; and

(6) Repairs to the Custom-house there effected.

The usual upkeep work was done by the District Road Committee, and some village roads improved.

The Musalai Atikár put in two sluices, built one well, and repaired nine others. He also repaired the vegetable market.

FOOD SUPPLY.

There was no lack of food at any time, except among the very poor for a few weeks in February and March, and relief was given by employment on minor roads, which was paid for at reduced rates in rice; but the timber, cadjans, and palmirah olas, &c., required at Silávaturai, and the labour required in transporting these materials and constructing buildings, soon brought money into the place, and there was comparative wealth instead of extreme poverty. When the tanks dried up and there was no pasture, both man and beast suffered thereby.

The food supply is varied, and consists chiefly of rice and fish and the produce of the palmirah; but there are many other edible and nutritious products, such as dry grain of several kinds, wild birds and beasts, beef, mutton, fowl, vegetables of various kinds, sugar, honey, most of which at their proper season the District produces, and which can generally be obtained in the market.

The fish caught was more than sufficient, and considerable quantities were exported, and so it was with the produce of the palmirah. The deficiency in rice grown was made up by that imported. The dry or fine grain never is sufficient for the requirements of the District, but is generally obtainable at reasonable prices from the interior or from India. In the island of Mannár, however, there are a good many people who seldom if ever have the wherewithal to procure other food than is supplied by the fruit, the young roots, and the fermented juices of the palmirah palm. To them toddy may be said to be the staff of life. The sugar fattens them, the fermented juice inspirits them, and their nitrogenous tissues are supplied by more or less fish. Prices were as follow:—

	Rs.	c.		Rs.	c.
Rice, per bushel ...	2	75	Coffee, per lb. ...	1	0
Paddy, per bushel ...	1	25	Beef, per lb. ...	0	20
Dry grain, per bushel ...	1	12½	Bread, per lb. ...	0	25
Sugar, per lb. ...	0	22	Palmirah fruit, per 100 ...	0	50
Sugar candy, per lb. ...	0	37	Palmirah roots, raw, per 100 ...	0	15
Sago, per lb. ...	0	18	Palmirah roots, boiled, per 100 ...	0	25
Tea, per lb. ...	1	50	Cocoanut, per 100 ...	3	50

LEGISLATION REQUIRED.

The most pressing legislation required has been, or is now being, attended to, and we shall have quite enough to do for some time to get it all into working order.

Registration of Births.—I am still in favour of making it compulsory. The Acting Registrar-General made an unsuccessful attempt to do so by appealing to the courts to punish the omission to register as a neglect of duty under a certain clause of the Penal Code.

Criminal Procedure Code.—Some procedure is necessary to enable a Police Court to deal with offences committed beyond its territorial limits, such as was provided by the old law to be followed by Justices of the Peace.

WORKS REQUIRED.

Of the larger works recommended in my last report none have as yet been undertaken, unless the trial borings at Mannár may be taken as a first instalment of a work to provide a water supply for Mannár town. Limestone having been reached, I see no reason to doubt that it will be found to contain good water as it does on the mainland. I recommend that the boring be continued as far as possible, and that a well be sunk and cement lined down to the rock, and for some way into it, to prevent percolation of any brackish water from the strata above.

I can only repeat the proposals as to larger works which I made last year. The list is as follows:—

(1) Mr. Parker's irrigation scheme for the District or some modification of it—*e.g.*, the construction of an anicut across the Sittaru, headworks, and distributing channels on both banks of the river.

(2) Completion of the causeway.
(3) Water supply to Mannár town.
(4) A wall round the Cemetery.

And I will add—

(5) A road from Pésalai to Talaimannár.

I will say no more about a railway or deepening Mannár channel for the present, but must insist that the need of the first work in the list is urgent.

The minor works which require attention are—

(1) Repair of the Fort tanks.
(2) Construction of an anicut and channel to irrigate the Viláṇkulam fields.
(3) A similar work on the Paraṇgi-áru.
(4) Repair of the bund of Palávi.
(5) Village roads.
(6) Village wells.
(7) A few more sluices for large tanks.
(8) Repair of Assistant Agent's house.
(9) Medical officer's quarters at Vankálai.

Of these minor works the Government Agent supports my recommendation to restore the bund of Palávi—for which I hope funds will soon be provided—and is steadily carrying out the policy of improving village roads and sinking wells. But we ought to get more for this purpose than is allowed us. Rs. 3,000, I suppose, would cover the expenditure last year for sluices and wells, including the boring experiments. What is done for roads is very little, and all out of District Road Committee funds.

Mr. Saxton, I see, has written about deepening the channel to the causeway. If this is not provided for it ought to be, as it is self-evident that the causeway is useless unless it can be approached.

ADMINISTRATIVE MEASURES.

I do not know that I have much to say about these. At the pearl fishery, that is to say, from the end of March to the middle of May, my duties were confined to the administration of justice and the routine of my office. I think it is a most remarkable thing, and reflects the greatest credit on all concerned, that the peace was so well kept, that there were so few thefts, and that sanitary rules were so well enforced that there was no sickness.

For the second half of the year the administration was in the hands of Mr. Saxton, who seems to have attended to it with great care.

The Forest Ordinance has not been thoroughly enforced, and I think cannot be until village forests and reserved forests are demarcated and rights therein determined. But there is not the same urgency for these laws here as in some other places. We have no chena and no illicit felling of timber worth taking notice of. The Forester has indeed questioned the right of the people to firewood on Mannár island, but I am inclined to think unnecessarily. The working of this measure took up a good deal of my thought at Hambantoṭa.

Medical Aid.—Nothing has been done yet in the way of affording more efficient medical aid to the villages, but I see that the Principal Civil Medical Officer has made recommendations which doubtless will be carried out sooner or later. I hope it may be sooner. Fortunately, the year was a healthy one for Mannár, but we must not relax our efforts to meet disease when it comes and strive to enforce sanitary rules. For those measures which will improve the water supply and ensure the reduplication of blades of corn, which Dr. Kynsey so rightly insists on, we must wait as patiently as we can.

Irrigation Rules.—The enforcement of these rules here occupies more of one's time and thoughts than anything else.

The Grain Tax Ordinance has not been introduced here. I desire to see the present demoralising renting system done away with.

IMPROVEMENTS.

The plans I have most at heart for the improvement of the District are—

(1) The irrigation of the District.
(2) Systematic scavenging of the larger villages.
(3) Larger facilities for obtaining skilled medical advice.
(4) Introduction of skilled midwives.
(5) Improved roads.
(6) More wells.
(7) Deepening of Mannár channel.
(8) Removal of the hindrances to fishing in the south sea.
(9) A loan fund, to assist agriculturists and fishers by enabling them, on furnishing sufficient security, to borrow money at a reasonable rate of interest for the purposes of their respective industries, instead of handing themselves over body and soul to unscrupulous money lenders.

WORK OTHER THAN ROUTINE.

It is not easy to say what is not routine. Circuit business, which involves inquiry of all sorts and inspection of tanks, gets to be a matter of more or less routine by the time one has been over the ground a few times. In a District like this, where every one is content to be let alone, it depends entirely on the individual energy of the Assistant Government Agent whether anything is done or not, but, as the sinews of war are wanting or very inadequately supplied, his energy is not of much use. It is thrown away much as is that of a rat in a trap. His energies become gradually exhausted, and after a time perhaps he gets off, having perhaps not damaged the trap a great deal, but injured himself considerably. Hope deferred indefinitely is a trying thing. For eighty-seven years the Assistant Government Agent has been asking for water for his people, but between this

place of torment and the bosom of plenty where Abraham dwells there is a wide gulf, and they have not got a drop yet, saving at the bottom of a few wells. He has asked for water and been given stones. This is literally true, for all we have got is stone bridges and a causeway of cut stone.

Mr. Saxton seems to have gone in most energetically for upkeep of bunds and thoroughly understanding the tank systems, and to have attended very carefully to all details of business.

Irrigation perhaps more than anything else has occupied my attention, and I sincerely hope that the strong Central Irrigation Board will prevent for the future mistakes which have certainly been made in the past.

LABOUR SUPPLY.

As was anticipated, the Indian cooly was glad enough to come when there was work to do and pay to be got. There were 44,101 arrivals and 24,019 departures, as against 18,093 arrivals and 18,994 departures in 1886, and the numbers arriving are still increasing.

REMARKABLE EVENTS.

This was a jubilee year. The details of the celebration of Her Majesty's jubilee have already been reported, but I do not think it has been recorded that the offering of the women and girls of Mannár was the largest, considering their numbers and their poverty. Even in proportion to population Mannár takes the second place. The honour of being first belongs to the women of Nuwara Eliya.

The Pope's jubilee was celebrated later in the year.

There was the rainiest December ever known.

The largest revenue was collected since the District was shorn of much of its territory and reduced to a third class appointment.

Mr. Saxton topped the record in the annals of speedy justice at outstations by procuring the conviction of the criminal in the Supreme Court within twelve days of the commission of the crime.

JUDICIAL.

It is not my intention to go into minute statistics, which are fully detailed elsewhere, but I should like to record a few facts.

It would not be absolutely true to say there is no crime, but I venture to assert that there is no District in the Island more free from it, and that it will compare favourably with many more favoured European Provinces. Eighty-five persons were convicted summarily and five by consent, but only forty-three of the summary offences can strictly be called criminal. The rest were guilty of quasi-criminal offences, such as not being vaccinated, shooting birds, and breach of sanitary regulations.

Of the forty-three quasi-criminals, twenty-one were guilty only of voluntarily causing hurt, and in the majority of cases for hurts which a schoolboy at home would be ashamed to complain of; one for cattle-stealing, nine for other thefts. Of the five tried by consent, the offences were voluntarily causing grievous hurt, theft, and house trespass. Of crimes cognizable by the superior courts two persons were convicted by the Supreme Court, the offences being culpable homicide. One was sentenced to twelve months and the other eight years. One was committed for trial to the District Court and was tried and acquitted in February, 1888, of grievous hurt. It may perhaps illustrate the mild type of crime, if I state that of the forty-three summary convictions only twelve sentences were to rigorous imprisonment, the rest were to fine only.

Cattle-stealing, on which I am asked specially to report, is almost entirely absent. There were only three accusations and one conviction.

Court of Requests.—Of 218 cases disposed of only twenty-one had to be decided on evidence. This does not look as if the people were very litigious.

District Court, Civil.—Only twelve cases came for adjudication, and of these eight were disposed of on their merits and two otherwise.

No criminal case was dealt with by this court.

W. J. S. BOAKE,
Assistant Government Agent.

Extracts from Diary.

PUERPERAL MORTALITY.

January 23.—Hear that Government is prepared to carry into effect any practical recommendation that may be made to lessen puerperal mortality.

Dr. Kynsey suggests that I should get women from this to go to Colombo to be trained. I fear I shall not be able to get them. However, I hope in a few days to be able to make another suggestion. In the meantime, in the endeavour to trace the causes of this mortality, I have prepared a table of percentages, which discloses some very curious facts :—

Table I.—General Mortality.

	Total Population as per my Census.	Deaths in 1885.	Annual Rate per 1,000.
Tamils ...	12,204 ...	535 ...	43
Moors ...	6,812 ...	367 ...	53

I have not yet got separate figures for deaths for 1886, but I have little doubt they will show a similar preponderance of deaths among Moors, for reasons which I have already pointed out.

Table II., showing the Percentage at different Ages (omitting decimals).

		Total Deaths at all Ages.	Percentage.					
			Under one year.	From 1 to 5 years old.	From 5 to 10 years old.	From 10 to 15 years old.	From 15 to 45 years old.	Over 45 years old.
Mannár.								
Tamil	Males	278	20	16	6	4	30	21
	Females	257	19	15	5	3	33	24
Moor	Males	179	27	13	8	4	20	21
	Females	188	23	21	12	6	15	21
Colombo.								
European and Burgher Females ...		50	18	12	8	2	38	20
Jaffna.								
Tamil	Males	3,910	16	17	7	3	23	33
	Females	4,057	15	18	7	3	24	30
Moor	Males	121	17	2	11	7	36	24
	Females	74	16	5	7	10	40	9
Colombo.								
Moor Females		438	19	16	9	2	32	17
Siṇhalese	Males	2,914	13	15	6	4	27	35
	Females	2,528	12	17	7	3	28	29

It is rather startling to find that the mortality among Europeans and Burghers during the child-bearing period in the healthiest part of Ceylon, and with the advantage of the best doctors and midwives, should be so excessive. I can only account for it by supposing that a large number of European ladies resort to Colombo from all parts of the Island, and thus that the worst cases from a large area are collected there.

It is almost as extraordinary to find the percentage of the same class so low among the female Moors of Mannár, and I can only account for it by supposing that only the very robust survive the age of fifteen.

The other figures are so consistent as a rule, that it argues in favour of their general accuracy. But here is another statement prepared from the Registrar-General's Report for 1885 :—

Statement showing the rate per mille of Population in each District of Deaths peculiar to Women.

Trincomalee	1·71	Badulla	·58
Mannár	1·66	Negombo	·58
Mullaittívu and Vavuniya ...	1·59	Nuwara Eliya	·52
Anurádhapura	1·36	Hambantoṭa	·48
Mátalé	1·28	Colombo	·44
Kégalla	1·27	Galle	·36
Kurunégala	1·23	Kalutara	·35
Puttalam	1·02	Jaffna	·34
Kandy	·73	Batticaloa	·27
Ratnapura	·68	Mátara	·24

I can scarcely believe there can be such a great difference as is here disclosed between the highest and lowest, and it is curious that Batticaloa, with almost the lowest proportion, should be the first to take special steps to decrease this special mortality.

Speak to the headmen about the great mortality amongst puerperal women, but they are very stolid.

February 3.—Have got in all the returns about puerperal deaths last year. The figures confirm the enormous percentage I have already complained of, and also the curious facts shown by the returns of 1885, that this great puerperal mortality exists only among the Tamils. The figures are as under :—

	No. of Confinements.	No. of Deaths.	Percentage.
Tamils	480	38	7·91
Moors	368	5	1·35
Total ...	848	43	5·07

February 4.—To turn again to the subject of puerperal mortality. I am prepared to reply to the last communication on the subject, but delay doing so till I hear from the Government Agent, to whom I have applied to ascertain if it would be possible to get a few good midwives in Jaffna.

I will recapitulate here certain facts. According to Dr. Kynsey, the rate for the whole Island is 1 death to 44 accouchements. The English rate is 1 death to 185 accouchements. The rate for Mannár, according to the figures I had when I last wrote officially, 10 deaths to 185 accouchements. The rate according to my present figures for 1886, 9·38 deaths to 185 accouchements. The most remarkable fact, that though the general mortality, especially infantile mortality, is much greater among Moors than Tamils, the puerperal mortality is much less. The rate for Tamils, 14·64 deaths to 185 accouchements. That for Moors, 2·57 deaths to 185 accouchements.

False Claim Cases.

Have concluded the preliminary hearing of the charges of false claim referred to a paragraph or two back, so far as I can at present, and am sending them to the Solicitor-General. The facts seem to be as follow: A certain Indian Moorish trader of Silávaturai, whom I shall call A, had an intrigue of an amatory sort with the abandoned wife of a man of a neighbouring village. Her name is Era-Muttoo ('seashell pearl'), and she was abandoned in more senses than one, for, according to her stepfather, she had long been wanting in the virtue symbolised by her name ; and her husband deserted her some years ago. The villagers becoming aware of the illicit amour, which by the way seems to have been carried on with the permission of the mother and stepfather, with whom the girl lived, denounced the guilty pair to the priest and elders of the mosque, who summoned them. They did not appear, however, before the ecclesiastical tribunal, and the villagers insisted that Ismail, the stepfather, should forbid the house to the paramour, who, however, persisted, and Era-Muttoo, who (I suppose) had a share in the house, authorised him to put up a partition wall, so as to divide her from her mother and stepfather. The stepfather, however, strenuously objected to this, and with the aid of his neighbours prevented the construction of the wall. Failing to get access, this persistent lover next proceeded to put up a house for the daughter of the barber, (not Baba) on the adjoining land of a neighbour, who also objected, and thus incurred his enmity. Frustrated in

his efforts to possess his love with any degree of secrecy, and yet being unwilling to give her up, he at last built a house on his own land for the woman.

It seems that social disgrace is attached to any such connection with barber women, and I suppose that, being annoyed at the scandal being made public by the opposition of Ismail and his wife to his possessing himself of the daughter unless he married her, he determined to revenge himself by bringing false cases.

He first instituted a case against Ismail for some Rs. 90 before me. I was not satisfied, and postponed the case for the production of accounts, but the case did not come before me again. Some villains outside, I suspect, persuaded Ismail to sign an admission for Rs. 45, half the claim, for which the plaintiff gave him a receipt in full.

Not satisfied with this, he proceeded to Colombo, and got a friend there, whom I shall call B, to institute three cases in the Court of Requests, Colombo, against Ismail, the stepfather, Ismail's wife, and the man who would not let him build on his land, for sums about Rs. 90, describing them all as "of Grandpass, Colombo, now at Akatimurippo in Mannár District" On receiving summons the three defendants came before me, insisted that they had never been in Colombo in their lives, and that the cases must be false, and instigated by A.

I forwarded their answers to the Commissioner, Colombo, and got from him the date of trial, which I notified to the defendants, and they engaged counsel; but somehow or other judgments were entered. Application was made to re-open them, but without avail, and writs issued. I refused to endorse the writs for a technical defect, which I fortunately was able to find, and sent for the defendants, who charged B with making false claim and A with aiding and abetting him. I issued warrants and arrested them both. B objects to my jurisdiction, and refuses to cross-examine witnesses or make any statement, but insists that his claims are true, and that he has no witnesses but those whose names he has given in the Court of Requests cases. He cannot give me their names, he says, and that if he did it would be no use, because they could not be found unless he pointed them out. I telegraph to Colombo for a list of witnesses, and what he says is true enough. It would be impossible for any Fiscal's Officer to find them: "Pakeer Bawa, of Grandpass," for instance.

Note, 1888.—Application was made to the Supreme Court on affidavits to re-open the judgments, but was refused. The Attorney-General decided that if any criminal proceedings were taken, the unfortunate defendants must go to Colombo to institute them. This they were not prepared to do, but the plaintiff has apparently thought it better not to enforce the writ and run the risk of a prosecution, for no steps have been taken by him for a year.

REPORT ON THE VAVUṆIYA-VILÁṆKULAM DISTRICT FOR 1887.

As I did not relieve Mr. G. M. Fowler of the charge of this District until January, 1888, I am unable to do more than embody in this report the information which has been furnished me in accordance with the requirements of the Government circular No. 20 of January 20, 1888.

I.—THE FOOD SUPPLY.

Rice and kurakkan form the chief articles of food of the people of this District. The extent of land sown with paddy during the year was 7,090 bushels as against 9,040 bushels sown in 1886, but the yield was only 21,915 bushels as compared with 66,853 bushels reaped in 1886. The dry grain crop is reported to have been 100 bushels as compared with 111 bushels in the previous year.

In addition to the grain locally grown, rice was imported from Jaffna, but there are no statistics to show in what quantity. Owing to the failure of the paddy crops there was great scarcity of food in the latter part of the year, and the people lived from August to the end of December on rice brought from Jaffna and the Coast. The price of country rice, which was Rs. 4 a bushel from January to September, rose to Rs. 4·25 in October, Rs. 5 in November, and Rs. 6 in December. Coast rice was sold at Rs. 4·25 in October, Rs. 5 in November, and Rs. 8 in December.

Unfortunately, the failure of the crops had not only a temporary effect, as owing to the want of seed paddy only a small extent was sown in the autumn for the kalapokam crop of 1888. Advances of seed paddy were offered to the cultivators, but except in one division these were refused owing, it appears from Mr. Fowler's diary, to a fear that they would have to pay an exorbitant rate for the loan. A sum of Rs. 200 was advanced to the people of Panankámam for the purchase of seed paddy.

II.—LEGISLATION REQUIRED.

Alteration of the Game Laws.

III.—WORKS REQUIRED.

The restoration of Kanakarayankulam, Maha Irampaikkulam, and Pavatkulam.

IV.—WORKS IN PROGRESS AND CONTEMPLATED.

The following works were in progress:—The restoration of Vavuṇiya-Viláṇkulam, Iratperiyakkulam, Mamaḍu, and Maḍukanda tanks; the metalling of a portion of the North-Central road.

A bridge over the Kanakarayan-áru at Parantan is much required. The remaining portion of the bridge over the same river on the old Jaffna road might be utilised for this purpose. Some small bridges and culverts are also much needed on the same road—the old road to Mullaittívu.

V.—PLANS FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE DISTRICT.

The extension of paddy cultivation and the improvement of the means of irrigation.

VI.—THE WORKING OF THE GRAIN TAX ORDINANCE.

The Grain Tax Ordinance has not been introduced into this District. The renting system seems to answer well. The rents are generally bought by the villagers themselves.

VII.—THE HEALTH OF THE PEOPLE.

There was no epidemic disease during the year, and the health of the people seems to have been fairly satisfactory, cases of paraṇgi being on the decrease. Births exceeded deaths by 43, the figures being 267 births and 222 deaths as against 254 births and 263 deaths in 1886. There were 332 admissions to the hospital at Vavuṇiya-Viláṇkulam as compared with 304 in 1886.

VIII.—CRIME.

There was no cattle-stealing. Three persons were committed for trial before the Supreme Court on a charge of manslaughter perpetrated in 1886, and two were convicted, one being sentenced to four years' and the other to six months' imprisonment.

IX.—CATTLE.

Murrain broke out in one village in Sinnacheddikulam, but did not spread to other villages. Six buffaloes and seven black cattle succumbed to the disease. Foot-and-mouth disease is said to have been prevalent, but there is no information as to the number of cattle that were attacked or died. The number of cattle killed by leopards has not been reported. The number of cattle in the District, according to the returns, was 12,337 (6,198 buffaloes and 6,139 black cattle), being 1,671 more than in 1886. The number of sale vouchers executed was 1,493, being 586 more than in 1886. People had to sell their cattle owing to the failure of the paddy crops.

The skins of 22 leopards and 35 bears were produced at the kachchéri, the amount of reward paid being Rs. 197·50. The sale of the skins realised Rs. 73·40.

X.—NEW AREAS OF CULTIVATION.

An extent of 229 acres of land is reported to have been opened for cultivation during the year: 40 acres 3 roods 27 perches of Crown land were sold, and the value of 90 acres and 36 perches more was deposited pending survey.

XI.—NATURE OF WORK OTHER THAN ROUTINE.

The Assistant Government Agent having charge also of the Mullaittívu District was engaged travelling backwards and forwards between the two stations and in inspecting tanks, roads, villages, &c.

XII.—EVENTS OF IMPORTANCE.

There were heavy rains in December, which caused considerable damage to irrigation works and roads.

E. T. NOYES,
Acting Assistant Government Agent.

REPORT ON THE MULLAITTÍVU DISTRICT FOR 1887.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

THE total revenue collected during 1887 shows a decrease of Rs. 4,598·11 from that of 1886. Under *Land Revenue*, owing to the failure of the crops, there is a decrease of Rs. 3,430·95, and the revenue under *Land Sales* and *Reimbursements* has suffered indirectly from the same reason, applicants being unable to purchase lands applied for when put up for sale.

The revenue from *Sale of Salt* is less than that of the previous year owing to the drought, as the retail sale was affected by the illicit collection of naturally-formed salt. This can only be checked by the vigilant and constant attention of a resident Assistant Agent. The headmen, if left to themselves, will not interfere.

The increase or decrease under other heads of revenue is merely casual.

The expenditure shows an increase of Rs. 5,335·25, of which Rs. 5,000 was spent on relief works and in the purchase of seed paddy.

Under *Revenue Services* an increase of Rs. 343·53 is accounted for by the simultaneous payment in 1887 of the commission on Grain Revenue for 1886 and 1887. Until this year the commission had always been paid from the vote for the succeeding year,—a practice the objection to which is obvious, as the commission in an unfavourable year was out of all proportion to the revenue collected.

Notwithstanding the great decrease in the revenue and the addition of Rs. 5,000 to the normal expenditure, the revenue exceeded the expenditure by Rs. 1,620·40, to which should be added Rs. 1,363·85 value of seed paddy, which will be recovered in 1888, so that the real proportion of expenditure to revenue is about 80 per cent.

FOOD SUPPLY.

The returns of grain available for consumption show that there was no want of food, in spite of the disastrous failure of the crops.

If the headmen's estimates for 1886 were at all to be trusted, there could be no stock in hand at the close of that year, so that the year under review presents a very favourable opportunity for calculating what is the amount of grain really required for consumption, and at the same time what is the amount really grown in the District in an ordinary year.

The crop reaped in 1887 was very small, and was estimated at only 150 per cent. on the seed sown.

In Karikaddamulai north and south the crops were said to be actually 1,901 bushels less than the seed paddy. After all due allowance for exaggeration, the failure was very extensive, and after setting aside 7,000 bushels for seed, there cannot have been much more than 8,000 bushels of paddy, equal to 4,000 bushels of rice, available for food.

Rice and paddy, equivalent to 20,000 bushels of rice (taking two bushels of paddy to one of rice), were imported by sea and brought by carts from Jaffna. Of this probably 2,000 bushels were used by non-residents, principally fishermen and their coolies, a balance of 18,000 remaining, which, with 4,000 bushels grown in the District, gives a total of 22,000 bushels of rice as the quantity actually consumed, besides 1,200 bushels of dry grain.

This quantity would, at the ordinary rate of consumption, supply the District for about eight months; but in some parts of the District less than the ordinary quantity was used, and I feel sure that fully 6,000 bushels remained in the hands of the wealthier proprietors at the end of 1886.

I am satisfied that a crop of not less than 60,000 bushels of paddy is required to meet the wants of the District for a year.

This crop would, according to my calculation, be represented in the headmen's estimates by 40,000 bushels, and I find that the latter amount is very nearly the average estimate for years when no grain is imported.

Fish was unusually plentiful in the lagoons, and it is estimated that double the usual quantity was caught in the Nantikadal and in Kokkilay lake. The palai fruit crop, which failed in 1886, was a good one, and other jungle produce was abundant. Deer and sambhur were killed in vast numbers during the dry weather, mainly for their hides, which were bartered for rice. The slaughter went on all through the close season, headmen being powerless to prevent it even if they wished to do so. It will be a serious matter for the inhabitants of some parts of the District when the extermination of the game is complete.

Until the December rains interrupted communications the price of grain was moderate. Rice varied in price from Rs. 3·25 to Rs. 5 per bushel, paddy from Re. 1·30 to Rs. 2·15 per bushel.

RELIEF WORKS.

Towards the end of May I informed the Government Agent that it would be necessary to provide work for the labouring classes from July until cultivation for the kalapokam began, and a vote of Rs. 5,000 was sanctioned.

Work was begun in July at Putukudiyiruppu and Tannirmurippu. At the former place labourers were employed on the new road from Puttukudiyiruppu to Karachchi, which will reduce the journey from Mullaittivu to Jaffna by thirty miles. At Tannirmurippu the bund of the tank was cleared of jungle from end to end. This work was soon completed, and the labourers were afterwards employed on a new road from Vattapalai to Kumarapuram, which has been long needed, and also on a road from Mamulai to Kumulamunai. This last road connects Karikkaddamulai south with the most populous part of Karikkaddamulai north and of Mulliyavalai, and when Tannirmurippu has been restored will be an important thoroughfare. Altogether about fifteen miles of road were opened and three miles of bund cleared of jungle. Two hundred persons—men, women, and children—were employed daily for nearly five months and one hundred for another month, at a cost of about Rs. 3,600. The rest of the money was spent in purchasing seed paddy, which was procured from Batticaloa and advanced to approved applicants.

WORKS REQUIRED.

In my last report I mentioned the Nantikadal scheme as that deserving most attention, but on further consideration I think that the restoration of Tannirmurippu is the work which would most benefit the District. Mr. Parker's rough estimate of the cost of repair is Rs. 75,000, but when he examined the tank the bund was covered with thick jungle, and I believe that if he saw it now, after it has been cleared, he would be able to reduce this estimate. The bund appears to be in excellent order. Stone can be obtained at the southern end of the embankment, and, as Mr. Parker suggests, the spill need not at first be raised to its full height. I think that there is probably an anicut across the stream flowing from what is now the principal breach, for if the two streams which supply the tank had been completely dammed, there would be a large spillwater at one or both ends of the bund instead of an insignificant opening. The two existing sluices could hardly have supplied the whole of the land lying below the tank.

The fields now cultivated together with the additional land that would be at once purchased would not exceed 500 acres, so that the return on an outlay of Rs. 75,000 (taking Mr. Parker's figures for yield and value of paddy which I believe to be quite correct) would be barely one and a half per cent. But the cost may be reduced, and even if this is impracticable I still think that the work should be undertaken. Hitherto the Mullaittivu District has received nothing except a hospital in return for the revenue it pays, and the execution of this work would remove a mischievous idea which exists among the people that their District is neglected and lost sight of. I am sanguine as to the ultimate financial success of the restoration. There is already a considerable extent of land under cultivation, which would be saved from the constantly recurring danger of drought; the land is more accessible than any other tank recently restored; and a number of Jaffnese have settled in the neighbourhood already. During the south-west monsoon there is constant and easy communication by sea with Point Pedro, and this would remove the main objection of Jaffna people to settling in the District.

No survey has yet been made of the Nantikadal, and it is still uncertain whether a dam at the northern end will be required, as no levels have been taken from the causeway. I believe that the late Provincial Engineer proposed to construct a dam across the Máttalan lake at a point more than a mile north of the narrow channel called Irattavaikkal, which connects the two lagoons, and which is little more than a hundred yards in width at the point where a dam may be required. A dam across the Máttalan lake, if practicable at all, would be enormously expensive. The other large tanks, Periyakulam and Pandarakulam, are so remote from the populous parts of the District that their restoration at present would rather serve the interests of a few individuals than of the District generally.

The bridging of the roads between Mullaittivu and the Central road is an urgently required work. During December traffic was stopped for a week, not even the tappal runner being able to cross the stream between Mankulam and Olumadu. The old road from Kallolunganpuliyankulam to Mullaittivu is also impassable in wet weather for want of a bridge at Parantan; so that the Assistant Government Agent or Magistrate must wait for the flood to subside, no matter how urgently his presence may be required at either station. When one officer is in charge of two stations fifty miles apart, it is at least desirable that he should be able to pass from one to the other in spite of rain.

Thanks to the vote for relief works, I was able to restrict chena cultivation to Puthukudiruppu, the inhabitants of other villages being allowed only to extend the village clearings. The more I see of the District, the more firmly I am convinced that chena cultivation has been the main cause of the poverty and disease which have prevented the District from even partially

regaining its former prosperity. That it was once a most flourishing District there can be no doubt. All along the coast every acre of suitable land shows signs of former cultivation, and towards the interior every stream, large or small, was dammed by a bund and irrigated a tract of fields. The population has disappeared, and until settlers are attracted the improvement of the District must be a very slow process.

Nothing has done more good of late years than the systematic enforcement of the irrigation rules. With the exception of that relating to clearings, which few are as yet sufficiently enlightened to appreciate, the rules are popular and easily enforced, while they prevent a great many petty disputes and quarrels which led to the neglect of cultivation and to the waste of time and money in the courts. The cultivators of Mullaittivu District, especially of the maritime pattus, present a favourable contrast to those of Vavuṇiya-Vilánkulam District, and have much more in common with those of the peninsula. The difference is probably due to climate.

I think that the price of Crown land in this District might be reduced with advantage. An applicant cannot obtain possession of an acre of uncleared scrub jungle under Rs. 17 (fees included), whereas if he wishes to sell it after it has been brought under cultivation he cannot obtain that price, and if it is sold in execution it probably realises less than half.

EDUCATION.

The people of the District seem to be very anxious for schools until they are provided, after which they frequently seem to lose their interest in them and devise various excuses for not sending their children. The attendance at the Mission schools appears to be better than at the Government schools, the reason, I think, being that the Mission teachers are generally better acquainted with the people of the place and with their peculiarities.

SANITARY CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

At the beginning and at the close of the year there was a good deal of fever and dysentery, and during the third quarter complaints were made of serious diarrhœa caused by eating Coast rice, to which the people were not accustomed; but, on the whole, the health of the population was good.

277 births were registered, being 11 in excess of the deaths.

Vaccination was carried on during the year, and 974 persons were treated.

There seems to have been a decrease in the population since the last census of 388, but I doubt whether the calculation of births and deaths, in order to arrive at the present population, gives true results in small districts.

CATTLE.

Cattle were in good condition and free from disease, with the exception of a few trifling cases of hoof-and-mouth disease in Tunukkai.

The returns show a decrease in black cattle, of which a good many were sold to Jaffna traders. Buffaloes have increased, as people seldom part with them until other means of raising money are exhausted. I obtained returns during the year of cattle killed by leopards. I believe that the total reported is less than the real number killed, but it is difficult for the headmen to get accurate information until people have learnt that they are expected to report such losses.

	Cows.	Bullocks.	Calves.	Total.
Neat Cattle ...	70 ...	6 ...	43 ...	119
Buffaloes ...	4 ...	1 ...	34 ...	39

Of the 158 head, 51 were killed in Tunukkai, being four per cent. of the stock in that division. Rewards were paid for 43 leopards and 32 bears. The price of leopard skins has risen so high that many are sold to traders instead of being brought to the kachchéri for the reward.

LEGISLATION REQUIRED.

Game Ordinance.—It is vain to attempt to protect the game with the law in its existing state. Hides command high prices, and as they can be openly sold and removed during the close season, very little good is effected by the prosecution of a casual offender who fails to recognise the subtle distinction between a fresh hide and a fresh piece of venison as evidence of his offence.

Some simple form of administration to small estates is much required. Administration is never taken if it can be avoided, and the loose way in which the affairs of deceased persons are settled leads to much injustice to minors.

Another point is the question of legitimacy which constantly arises when the succession to property is disputed. A Wanni marriage is a very informal ceremony, and comparatively few are registered. Some such marriages are recognised by the villagers as legitimate, while others are not, for reasons which I have found it difficult to understand, as they turn on the custom of the district, or sometimes even of the village. I believe that registration is not legally indispensable, but the evidence of such marriages as those referred to is always unsatisfactory, and registration should as early as possible be made the only proof of legitimate marriage. The absence of Proctors from the courts of Vavuṇiya-Vilánkulam and Mullaittivu, though not an unmixed misfortune, leads to many points remaining unsettled for want of an appeal, which is very rarely taken by the unsuccessful suitor himself. I think that an examination of decided cases would show some remarkable discrepancies in the various Judges' interpretation of the "Thésawalamai" as applied to the Wanni.

Cattle Trespass is an ever-present subject of complaint, and the damage done is very great. Better fencing would do more good than legislation, and special trouble has been taken by the headmen in this respect for the protection of the crop now growing. The mode of fencing is capable of much improvement, but the prejudice against any innovation is difficult to overcome. I do not think that any improvement can be made in the existing Ordinance, but it needs to be carefully enforced.

Fiscals' Ordinance.—The absence of the Deputy Fiscal from the station encourages fictitious claims preferred for the sake of delay. The inquiry is a perfectly useless process, and, except in the case of movables, ought to be abolished. The Fiscal can only sell the interest of the debtor,

whatever it may happen to be, and the purchaser buys it at his own risk. Why should the Fiscal go through a quasi-judicial inquiry which can satisfy nobody except a fraudulent claimant who succeeds in staying a sale which would not injure a rightful owner? The duty of deciding claims should devolve on the Judge when the order to put the purchaser in possession is applied for.

CRIME.

The only serious crime during the year was a burglary at Oddisuddan, where the Hindu temple was robbed of property, principally jewels, of considerable value. The thieves were not detected, and the case is attended by suspicious circumstances, which render it doubtful whether it was a genuine burglary at all.

Revenue Offences.—Two men were convicted under the Game Ordinance and one of shooting an elephant without license. Four charges of illicit possession of salt were instituted, in three of which the accused were convicted, and the fourth is still pending.

AREAS OF CULTIVATION.

4,480 acres were cultivated with paddy, 260 with dry grain, and 150 with tobacco. The tobacco crop was estimated at 122,150 lb.; value, 15 cents per pound. Probably 100,000 lb. were exported, the remainder supplying the District. There was an article on Ceylon tobacco in the "Tropical Agriculturist" of February, 1887, which passed severe strictures on the compilation of agricultural returns by revenue officers, winding up with the somewhat sweeping assertion that no reliance whatever could be placed on Blue Book returns, and that they reflected the greatest discredit on the Government.

In a country where distance in rural districts is measured by "a shout," and superficial area by the extent that can be sown broadcast with a bushel of grain, absolute accuracy is not attainable; but still the discrepancies pointed out were surprising, and I made inquiries in Mullaittívu on the subject of tobacco.

Mr. Tilliyampalam, the kachchéri interpreter, at my request carefully weighed tobacco of different kinds, and found that Jaffna tobacco weighs three times as much as the Wanni leaf, though the latter is of superior flavour.

In Mullaittívu 4,000 plants are grown in an acre, yielding 20,000 marketable leaves. (This is a moderate estimate, plants often yielding eight or nine good leaves.)

Leaves of the first quality weigh 3 lb. per bundle of 50, second quality, 1¾ lb.; third quality, 1¼ lb.; fourth quality, ¾ lb.; the average thus obtained being nearly 1¾ lb. per bundle. In this District, therefore, the average yield per acre is only 700 lb., while in Jaffna it is over 2,000 lb. If such a difference as this exists between the yield per acre in two divisions of the same Province, it is not improbable that the returns of other Provinces may be fairly correct, though not sufficiently uniform to satisfy the writer of the article referred to.

THOROUGHFARES ORDINANCE.

The failure of crops seriously affected the funds of the District Committee, as an unusual number of taxpayers elected to work. It is difficult, where the population is so scattered, to employ labour satisfactorily, and it is much more convenient to the Committee when the tax is commuted. 1,912 receipts were issued, of which 97 were returned on account of deaths, exemptions, and payment elsewhere. For the remaining 1,815, 1,408 men paid single or double commutation, 307 worked on the roads, 11 paid Rs. 10 fine, 10 were imprisoned, and the remaining 77 left the District and had not been accounted for up to the close of the year.

The men who were imprisoned refused to work after being arrested.

No work was done on the roads except by the labourers who elected to work, all the available funds of the Committee being absorbed by the payment of contribution to principal roads and fixed charges for establishment, ferries, &c.

A grant-in-aid is absolutely necessary to keep the roads in order. The mileage is very large for such a small population, and since the grant was withdrawn there has been no money available for anything more than cutting back jungle at the roadsides. Culverts remain broken, and roads gradually become impassable for carts. At least Rs. 1,000 should be allowed annually in aid of the Committee funds, otherwise it will be necessary to consider whether some roads should not be abandoned in order that the remainder may be kept up. The importance of keeping up and improving the means of communication in this District is very great, and it would be a great pity to reduce the number of cart roads.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The great event of the year was the jubilee of Her Majesty, and Mullaittívu was second to none of the outstations in the enthusiasm, at any rate, with which it was celebrated on June 28.

A survey of the coast off Mullaittívu was made during the south-west monsoon by Captain Aldrich, R.N., of H.M.S. Egeria.

Dr. Waytealingam, Assistant Colonial Surgeon, retired in October, after many years' service, of which eighteen had been passed in Mullaittívu. The loss of his services will be widely felt in the District, where he had won the complete confidence of the inhabitants.

Salvage operations at the wreck of the ss. Indus were resumed during the south-west monsoon with some success.

A number of pearl oysters were, as usual, washed up at the break of the north-east monsoon, but no bank has been discovered, although there is a very general belief that one exists off the coast; and the name of a village, Silávattai, close to Mullaittívu, seems to indicate the existence of a fishery in former times.

There are no chank or sponge divers at Mullaittívu, so that there is little chance of a bank being accidentally discovered.

Mr. Noyes was appointed to act as Assistant Government Agent of Vavuṇiya-Viláṇkulam and Mullaittívu from January 1, 1888, but has not yet arrived.

G. M. FOWLER,
Acting Assistant Government Agent.

Vavuṇiya-Viláṇkulam, January 18, 1888.

Extracts from Diary.

Nedunkéni, January 26.—The District Mudaliyár of Mélpattu met me at Nedunkéni and said that people were already leaving their villages in search of food. I think that there is a general tendency on the part of headmen to exaggerate distress. In any ordinary year people would derive no benefit from the growing crop, so until the season for reaping arrives it is difficult to see how they are worse off than usual. The usual explanation offered is that they live on borrowed paddy, and in bad seasons cannot borrow, as there is no prospect of their repaying the loan.

Oddisuddán, February 19.—I have given strict orders to headmen that the rule as to watching is to be strictly enforced, and that all cultivators must keep up their fences and do their share of watching as long as any portion of the crop can be reaped.

The outcry about distress is obviously premature and exaggerated, and is due entirely, in my opinion, to the action of the landowners, who snatch at the opportunity of shifting on to the shoulders of Government their own obligations to their várakudies. The failure of the present crop can in no way as yet cause distress, as it would not in any case be available for food, and what distress exists is caused by the landowners' breach of contract. The custom renders the support of the várakudies incumbent on the landowner, irrespective of the success or failure of the crop, and the várakudi is bound to labour until he has paid off his debt to the landowner.

Mullaittivu, February 24.—I have been inspecting the crops in the neighbourhood, and I think that the failure is less extensive than I had expected. Here and there quite a good crop is to be seen, where the field was sown early, but a considerable extent has totally failed, and has been abandoned to the cattle. Probably over half the full extent sown has failed.

Parantan, February 28.—The road from Nedunkéni to Parantan is very bad. From the 20th to the 23rd mile it has had nothing done to it for years. Large boulders crop up in the roadway and on the sides of the hills; the road is a mere rough watercourse. Most of the minor roads are in better order than this, though not a quarter of the money is spent on them that is allowed for this road. I am sure that the District Committee could keep this road in better order if the money were spent by it instead of by the Public Works Department. It is impossible for the District Engineer of Pallai to supervise it, and the money is spent by an overseer, who selects the easiest parts of the road to work on.

Vavuniya-Viláṅkulam, March 8.—Inquired into a curious complaint in court to-day. A man charged with stealing a gun was induced to dip his hand in a pot of boiling ghee in order to prove his innocence by doing so unhurt. He was very severely scalded, and has been in hospital for some days. He says that he was compelled by threats to do it, but the defence is that he did it voluntarily and at the suggestion of his own mother.

Iranai-Illuppaikulam, March 10.—I went round some of the fields near Púvarasankulam yesterday evening, but Pulavanáur was the only one where a crop was growing. This was nearly ripe. A small boy was trying to frighten away a pea-fowl, which seemed to pay very little attention to him. I was told that these birds do great damage, as they nip off a whole ear at a time. There are not enough left in the District now to make much difference.

Olumadu, April 27.—As the skins of leopards now sell at the kachchéri for more than the Government rewards, I think that the reward might be raised. If the reward were abolished on this ground, the skins would fall in price, as the traders could make their own terms, and natives would not find sufficient inducement to make special efforts to kill leopards. The people here think that they have increased of late, and a very large number of cattle is killed by them annually.

Tunukkay, April 29.—Returned by the Mankulam road which was rather heavy after the rain. Elephants were on the road near Mallávi, when I passed, and only moved off a short distance into the jungle. There were two young ones and a half-grown one in the herd.

I stopped at Mankulam, and went on to Kanakaráyankulam in the afternoon.

Puvarasankulam, May 9.—In the afternoon I held sale of Naduchcheddikulam paddy rents, 22 out of 47 villages sown failed altogether. The rents of the remainder were sold for Rs. 386. Four Siphalese villages sold for Rs. 207; the rents of these villages were alone bid for by others besides the cultivators, the reason being, I believe, that the Siphalese cultivators do not remove their crop before the sale.

The estimates of Siphalese villages are generally fair, while those of Tamil villages are almost without exception far below the real yield.

Pampaimadu, May 10.—This is a good-sized village, and the tank is a large one and generally well supplied with water. The bed of the tank is overgrown with Adampen and Nochchi trees, so that there is a very small extent of open water. It is a great breeding place for wild fowl.

The bund of the tank is very irregular, and must have been breached many times. The ván has never been properly cleared, and a hole has been cut in the bund to let off flood water. This must become a breach, if a sudden flood comes down, but with the ván in its present state a breach must occur somewhere in such a case, and the site selected is probably the best. I have ordered them to clear away the trees and jungle which choke the ván during this dry season.

This tank receives the drainage of a large area, and might be made an important one by raising the bund.

Kidapidechchakulam, May 14.—While waiting for the coolies at Kidapidechchakulam, I made inquiries about Vávani tank, and a villager informed me that the ván was close by, and that there were the remains of a built stone spill. (None of the headmen could tell me anything whatever about this tank when I inquired previously.)

I went about a mile into the jungle north of Kidapidechchakulam, and saw the spill. It was built of very roughly squared stones of small size, and has been completely washed away, the stones lying about in the bed of the stream.

The bund of the tank at the spill is still high, but is covered with jungle, and its direction cannot be traced. Mr. Parker found it crossing the river at Muthaliyakulam, about 3½ miles from here as the crow flies. As the river flows through the breach there, and this stream flows over the site of the old spill, it is probable that the breach at the river is the only one.

None of the villagers have explored the bund throughout its length. On my way I found a well-carved stone lying in the jungle. It was something like the spout outside a Tamil Hindu Temple, and on my saying so the villagers with me remarked that the jungle was called Kóilkádu ('the temple forest'), but no one knew of any ruins, and the story was that this stone was brought to its present position by an elephant.

Mullaittivu, May 21.—I have received a great many applications to be allowed to chena. I think that great harm will be done if these are allowed, and I have refused them, only allowing the village clearing to be extended and cultivated. Something however must be done to assist the poorer classes in the maritime pattus, and I think that a relief work should be undertaken near Kumulamunai, and another near Puttukudiyiruppu. The scanty crops obtained this year will very shortly be exhausted, and then distress must ensue, besides which seed paddy is required, and next year's crop also will suffer from the failure this year.

If seed paddy is not supplied by Government, there is no object to be gained by refusing to allow chenas, as paddy fields will remain uncultivated and no labour will be required.

In Vavuniya-Viláṅkulam District those who really want work can find it on the tanks now being restored and on the roads; but here in Mullaittívu no public works are going on, and even the District Committee has no funds owing to so many having elected to labour instead of commuting as usual.

Mullaittivu, June 16.—I came in to Mullaittívu by 8 A.M. Another culvert on the Vadduvakallu road has fallen in. The District Committee is bankrupt! After paying contribution to principal roads, the balance is insufficient to pay commission to headmen and establishment for the year, not to speak of nothing whatever being available for roads. The withdrawal of the Government grant, made annually up to last year, tells very heavily on this District, and this year, owing to the failure of crops, the number of defaulters is very large.

Kúlankulam, July 12.—Leaving the Nedunkéni road at Sémamaduwa, I went by jungle path to Kulankulam in Mélpattu south, sending my carts round by road. The distance is not more than twelve miles across, but the carts have to travel thirty miles. It has been frequently proposed to make a cart road across to Kulankulam, and it would be a very useful work, but is beyond the means of the District Road Committee.

There are a few rocky ridges, but no other difficulties. The people are very much afraid of travelling by the present track, as it is infested by bears, whose tracks were to be seen everywhere.

Ruwanmaduwa, July 13.—I left Kulankulam in the early morning, and went for six miles along the path to Padawiya to a breached tank called Ruwanmaduwa. It was a large tank and was breached at the sluice, the stones of which can be seen in the bed of the stream. I am told that the bund is two miles in length. From the breach I went about two miles through the jungle west of the tank, to the ruins of which I had heard. They consist of the remains of a square brick walled enclosure, containing numerous pillars, stone mortars, and other dressed stones, but all very rough work. The ground is covered with bricks and tiles, and I imagine that the brick walled enclosure must have been the residence of one of the petty Wanni kings. There is a dágoba in very good preservation, about 30 or 40 ft. high and unopened. There are also remains of pansalas and pilimagé. In looking about for other ruins, I fortunately happened to see what looked like a letter on a small piece of stone projecting from the ground, and on clearing the earth away I found that this was the corner of a large inscribed slab, 7 ft. in width. I cannot tell how much is under ground. I copied five lines of the inscription, which was very roughly cut, and in character differing considerably from that of the rock inscriptions.

I will endeavour to make another visit to the place, and unearth the stone and copy the inscription, but it is rather an out-of-the-way place and difficult of access.

On my way back my guide pointed out a peculiar shaped rock, where he said that the kings of Kandy kept a guard to take toll of strangers. I found that Ruwanmaduwa is in the North-Central Province, the boundary, which is marked only by a pála tree, being pointed out to me three miles south of Kulankulam.

Kokkilai, July 20. I spoke to the fishermen about the use of drag nets in the Kokkilai lake, and they undertook not to use them any more. Mr. Murray wrote to me from Trincomalee about this, as the people on the Trincomalee shore are forbidden by village rules to use them, and they complained that the Kokkilai fishermen continued to do so. Undoubtedly the use of the "karaivalai" and "adasuvalai" must affect the supply of fish in the lake, and there is no reason to allow these fishermen, who come from Mannár and Negombo, to injure the food supply of the villagers.

Tannimurippu, August 5.—I left Kodalikallu, and went through Nírávikulam, Kanchuraimoddaikulam, and an abandoned tank called Puliyankulam to Mankindimalai, crossing the brow of the hill down into the bed of Kurunthankulam, and then by a path formerly used as a timber road to the northern end of Tannimurippu bund. There is a sluice here, with brick bisókotuwa, the culvert being of dressed stone. I walked from end to end of the bund, which has been very well cleared, a good deal more having been done than was necessary.

August 6.—I stopped work before leaving. The bund is now ready for survey, if it is considered worth while, and no object is to be gained by clearing it more completely.

Puthukudiyiruppu, August 10.—There has been some difficulty over the relief works here. When first started only able-bodied men were admitted, and they were paid at the ordinary rate for road work; but soon such numbers applied for work, that I reduced the rate to 4 cents and a quart of rice, women and children proportionately, 3 cents and 2 cents per diem.

On this the men stopped work, while the women and children still wanted employment, but of course for work of the kind were useless alone. After remaining in strike for a week, some of the men returned to work, but still the women and children form an undue proportion of the labourers. It is on their account that relief works are mainly necessary, as the men can take care of themselves, if they choose to go in search of work, so I do not like to refuse them work.

After paying the coolies, I told them as a sort of compromise that men should receive eight cents instead of four cents per diem, as soon as they got so far into the jungle as to be obliged to stay at the working place instead of returning home daily, and I hope that this will induce more men to work.

Oddisuddan, August 12.—Periyatamby, who bought 8 acres of Crown land under a breached tank called Velivayal, has repaired all three breaches, two during last year and the third this year. I have not inspected the work, but if it is satisfactory I think that this would be a very fair case for compensation under the recent Circular. I have told him that I will inspect the tank at the first opportunity and report to the Government Agent on it.

Vavuniya-Vilankulam, October 18.—I have been reading Mr. Boake's interesting report on Mannár District, and I see that he believes that crops in that District are generally under-estimated, and that this is done in accordance with an agreement between headmen and people. I am certain that this is the case in Mullaittivu and in this District, and if commutation is ever to be introduced the matter must be attended to. The outcry against commutation elsewhere is due in a great measure, I suspect, to the fact that fair payment is found to be harder than the apparent extortions of renters. The renter only took the real tithe, and that was so much more than the estimated tithe, that revenue officers were easily induced to believe that the renters plundered the people. The people are really a great deal too sharp to allow themselves to be plundered when the Ordinance provides such a simple remedy, and, so far as my experience goes, the renter is generally the victim when a difference does arise.

Oddisuddan, October 24.—At Oddisuddan I spent the day in trying to obtain evidence respecting the robbery of the temple. It is perfectly clear that it is the work of some one connected with the temple. The thieves broke into a room adjoining the safe of the temple, and took the key of the safe from its hiding place and opened the safe. Punniyar says that no one except himself knew where the key was kept, but he afterwards modified this statement, and I think that both the Brahmin and the Uḍaiyár knew it.

SOUTHERN PROVINCE.

REVENUE ADMINISTRATION REPORT OF THE GOVERNMENT AGENT, SOUTHERN PROVINCE, FOR 1887.

I.—INTRODUCTION.

"TURNING THE CORNER" may, I think, be accepted as the text of the report I have to make for 1887. Signs of returning prosperity were not wanting early in the year, and gradually increased until there was no room for doubt during the last three or four months. This happier time had consequently not been sufficiently long-lived by December 31 to make its influence felt on the general revenue of the year; but even this does show an advance in such items as are inseparable from increasing trade and traffic, and indicatory of the freer command of ready money, such as Customs, Land Sales, Tolls, and Excise.

This return of prosperity was specially marked in Galle, where the depression has been so severe: boutiques which had been closed were gradually opened, and there was palpably more bustle and trade in the town. The Missionaries, too, were able to corroborate the improvement in the times from the results of their bazaars for various charitable objects, which went off better than they had for some years. Various merchants and traders also spoke of a readier demand for articles in which they dealt.

As the experience of the first quarter of the present year bears out the hopes formed on the above indications, I need say no more to vindicate the correctness of the assertion I open with.

II.—PROVINCIAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Revenue.

The revenue collected during the year in the Province was Rs. 934,705, as against Rs. 953,873 in the previous year. The difference, however, is only nominal, and due chiefly to the stamps required for the post offices in the Province being no longer drawn from the kachchéries, but supplied by the Postmaster-General direct from Colombo, which affected the local collection of the revenue to the extent of Rs. 13,500. The rest of the difference is under the head *Miscellaneous*, which was swollen last year by the transfer of a number of items in deposit to revenue and by a refund of overdrafts made by Departments in excess of their wants.

Rejecting these items, the real revenue may be said to have been slightly in excess, and there were substantial increments under the heads which indicate returning prosperity, such as *Customs* (Rs. 4,484, including *Port and Warehouse Dues*), *Land Sales* (Rs. 4,396), *Toll Rents* (Rs. 2,023), and *Licenses* (Rs. 4,962).

Turning to details, *Arrears* show a falling off of Rs. 1,019 owing to a greater proportion of revenue being recovered within the year.

Land Sales gave an increase of Rs. 5,397 altogether in the Galle District, where there has been a fair demand for lands and a good sale of lots supposed to contain plumbago, for which there has been increased inquiry. This, I am informed, is due to the mineral being found in this District at a small depth—indeed, at times quite on the surface—while in the Western and North-Western Provinces the workings now have gone to such a depth that they can only be carried on with improved and costly machinery which the value of the output will not justify. Mr. Lewis Mendis, who owns extensive mines in Kurunégala, but has returned to his native district and gone in for extensive cultivation of tea, has recently given an impetus to the trade by investing somewhat heavily in plumbago lots in Divitura.

There have been also in the Galle District a large number of settlements of claims under the recent instructions of Government.

In Mátara there is a small falling off in *Land Sales*, which the Assistant Government Agent ascribes to the inefficiency of his staff in this branch.

Land Revenue shows a falling off of Rs. 7,213, almost entirely in the Hambantota District. This the Assistant Government Agent attributes partly to a bad year and partly to the difficulty of collecting the assessment on the chenas under the provisions of the Grain Ordinance, which had not in his District superseded the old renting system until a decision of the Tangalla courts necessitated a change. There is no doubt the old renting system did supply a material check both on the area cultivated and the assessment of the Government share, for which no adequate substitute will ever be forthcoming. The headmen are more or less interested in the chenas, and hence not only screen excessive cultivation but abet under-assessment, and in one recent case did not account for the full amount collected. Two vidáne árachchies have in consequence been dismissed. An effort has been made to require prepayment of the rent due for Crown land when the license is

issued, but this cannot be done in regard to private chenas. As long as this branch of agriculture prevails so extensively as it now necessarily does in the Giruwá pattu, there will be much difficulty in checking fraud, but as the irrigation works are developed the people will, I have little doubt, give up chena in favour of paddy, especially if encouraged to do so by being allowed waste land on easy terms. The services of the newly-appointed Forester, too, if properly utilised, will supply an additional check.

Rents, which in this Province consist exclusively of Road and Bridge Tolls, gave a substantial increase of Rs. 2,000, which is a sign of increasing traffic consequent on, I believe, returning prosperity. The Hambantota District contributed 30 per cent. of the increase and Mátara 26 per cent., while the remaining 44 per cent. was in the Galle District, where, I am glad to say, a steady increase has apparently set in. The tolls (including those accruing to the Municipality of Galle) fetched the minimum sum realised for many years in 1886 (Rs. 28,812), but rose in 1887 to Rs. 30,015, and have sold for 1888 for Rs. 32,000, or very nearly what they fetched in 1882.

Licenses are beginning to resume some of their former elasticity once more. As reported last year, the sale for 1887–88 showed an advance on the figures for the two previous years, and I am happy to be able to record the offers for the right to retail arrack during 1888–89 are nearly up to the figures for 1884–85; but the recovery is most marked in Mátara, where the figures have gone back to those of 1882. The arrack farms for the past five years have realised as follows:—

	1888–89. Rs.	1887–88. Rs.	1886–87. Rs.	1885–86. Rs.	1884–85. Rs.
Galle ...	73,200 ...	70,200 ...	65,000 ...	65,200 ...	85,100
Mátara ...	44,500 ...	37,000 ...	32,500 ...	32,300 ...	32,250
Hambantota ...	14,500 ...	14,000 ...	13,200 ...	13,100 ...	15,100
Total ...	132,200	121,200	110,700	110,600	132,450

The rents were exposed for sale by pattus, which has enabled smaller capitalists to compete, and induced some rivalry amongst the larger ones. I gave evidence before the Arrack Committee of the Legislative Council in August last, and was glad to find it did not recommend a change in the direction proposed in the mode of collecting our excise revenue. Any alteration in our system should be, I think, on the lines indicated in last year's report. I am happy to record marked improvement in the conduct of the distillers of this District. Complaint as to illicit sales entirely ceased early in the year, except against one distiller, a troublesome independent man at Bentota, who had a manufactory right on the bank of the river, and who was strongly suspected of disposing of arrack illicitly for removal up the river. The distillery being, moreover, situated in the populous parts of the village, the employés were constantly annoying the respectable inhabitants. The refusal to renew the license consequently gave much satisfaction, I have reason to believe. I have also required the removal of another distillery to a site more remote from the river, and have urged on the Government Agent, Western Province, the propriety of adopting a similar policy on his bank of the river; but though Mr. Saunders was personally inclined to concur with me, he was unable to enforce this measure at once, as there were no stills immediately on the bank, and holders only a short distance from it had recently been put to some expense complying with other requirements initiated by him.

In view of what has recently appeared in the home papers about the anxiety of public servants to force liquor on native races, it is perhaps as well to note that I have recently revised the lists of taverns and made a reduction in their number, and this at a time there is difficulty in realising the revenue obtained in former years. I may add, that whenever there is a complaint against the site of a tavern, the matter is fully inquired into and every effort made to place it in the least objectionable locality, due regard being had to the possibility of the worse evil of illicit sale.

Stamps show an increased sale of the revenue and judicial descriptions (Rs. 3,380), but postage shows a heavy falling off (Rs. 13,500), owing to the post offices being furnished with stamps for sale direct from Colombo.

Fine and Forfeitures brought in Rs. 1,027 less than in 1887, owing to the smaller amount (Rs. 2,036) received from police courts, the causes of which will be found referred to under the head "Crime."

Sale of Government Property also realised less than the previous year, owing chiefly to a smaller amount of salt disposed of wholesale at Hambantota; but this was counterbalanced partly by a larger sale for retail, chiefly, I believe, in the Hambantota District itself, which is encouraging, as showing the people were better off.

The collection of salt in 1886 was very small owing to unfavourable weather, but the Assistant Government Agent reports this deficiency was more than made up during the past year.

In view of the desire for change in various branches of our revenue system, it may be useful to note that an endeavour to get rid of the monopoly system under which salt is manufactured in the Madras Presidency has not proved a success. It resulted in the cost to the consumer being "considerably increased; though it was expected that under the operation of the (new) excise system competition amongst manufacturers would lead to a reduction in the price; but combination, rather than competition, has been the result. Practically, the only check against combination is the presence of Government salt in factories retained under the monopoly system, but as the excise system is further extended and the Government stock exhausted, this check must disappear. The result, accordingly, has been that the selling prices of the current year (1886–87) have risen still higher." *

Salt for fish curing brought in an advance of Rs. 690, almost entirely in the Mátara District, where the Dondra yard is proving a great success, though in Hambantota unfounded rumours set afloat of an intention to close the yard are believed to have had an adverse effect in the number of boats resorting thereto during the past year.

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* *Vide* Madras Government Order 147, Revenue, October 8, 1887, which also discloses that the average wastage was 5·18 per cent. on the quantity stored.

Timber brought in Rs. 1,757, or an advance of Rs. 630 on the previous year, owing to more stringent measures, especially in the Galle District, against illicit cutting consequent on the appointment of Mr. Erskine (Superintendent of Minor Roads) as Forester.

Reimbursements are also behindhand, owing to a failure to recover water-rate in the Mátara and Hambantota Districts, of which no explanation has been afforded. Fees for Bills of Health, a new item of revenue, brought in Rs. 2,142 during the year.

Interest shows a heavy decline of Rs. 4,464, owing to the balance in the local branch of the Chartered Mercantile Bank having been kept low in consequence of the demand for remittances to Colombo, and heavier outlay in reproductive works preventing our recouping it by transfers from the outstation kachchéries.

Expenditure.

Fixed Salaries show a small decrease (Rs. 2,300), but *Provisional Salaries* have increased owing to the Presidents of the Village Tribunals being now paid under this head instead of from the votes of *Administration of Justice.*

Revenue Services figure for a larger amount owing to a better collection of salt at Hambantota, which enabled us to replenish our stock, which had fallen rather low owing to a poor harvest in the previous year.

Administration of Justice and *Prison Services* show a very large reduction (Rs. 14,596), owing to the reasons given when discussing the crime of the Province.

The other heads call for no particular notice.

The revenue and expenditure of the several Districts was as follows :—

	Revenue. Rs.	Expenditure. Rs.	Proportion of Expenditure to Revenue.
Galle	498,144*	212,023	42·56†
Mátara	200,466	69,873	34·85
Hambantota ...	236,094	97,544	41·31
Total ...	934,705	379,441	40·59

III.—CUSTOMS AND TRADE.

My Assistant in this branch, Mr. Vigors, has favoured me with the following memorandum on the transactions at the ports of the Southern Province during 1887 :—

The revenue collected through the Customs in the Southern Province during 1887 amounted to Rs. 226,336·19, derived from the following sources :—

	Rs.	c.
Imports	201,135	26
Exports and Royalty	3,427	2
Port Dues	21,523	52
Warehouse Rent	233	48
Forfeitures	16	91

Of the total amount, Rs. 225,428·92 was collected in Galle.

As compared with 1886 there is an increase in the total receipts of Rs. 4,300·23, which appears under the following heads :—

	Rs.	c.
Imports	4,355	37
Port Dues	129	14

less a slight falling off in Exports (royalty), Warehouse Rent, and Forfeitures.

The value of the imports for the year was Rs. 2,785,985·57, inclusive of Rs. 40 in specie, and of exports Rs. 1,664,081·70. As compared with 1885 and 1886 the figures are (exclusive of specie) :—

	1885. Rs.	c.	1886. Rs.	c.	1887. Rs.	c.
Imports ...	3,218,184	0	3,148,622	0	2,785,945	0
Exports ...	1,536,621	56	1,702,337	72	1,664,081	70

The principal items of imports were :—

	1886. Quantity.	Valued at Rs. c.	1887. Quantity.	Valued at Rs. c.
Cotton goods ...	pkg. 6; pieces 3,2941	43,563 76	pieces 29,614	40,697 5
Cutty stuffs ...	cwt. 5,666 0 0	40,128 35	cwt. 4,695 1 12	36,694 61
Fish ...	" 2,619 0 0	26,189 46	" 4,827 0 19	48,271 70
Grain ...	bushels 19,050	61,912 50	bushels 4,820¼	27,365 81
Paddy ...	" 9,288	13,933 13	" 14,723¼	22,084 88
Rice ...	" 564,093	1,833,303 6	" 583,108¾	1,895,103 44
Oil, kerosine, &c.	cases 12,000	40,128 24	casks 64; cases 8,259	28,561 95
Onions ...	cwt. 10,158 3 22	30,476 84	cwt. 11,860 3 19	35,582 76
Poonac ...	" 10,953 3 1	43,815 4	" 13,795 3 22	55,183 79
Coals ...	tons 41674	798,590 0	tons 20,578	377,164 0

* In these figures the amount received for licenses, &c., though all brought to account at the Galle kachchéri, are credited to each District; the figures, therefore, differ from those given in the Assistant Government Agents' reports.

† Payment of the salaries of the Fiscal's and Customs Departments and some other charges on account of the Assistant Government Agents' Districts are drawn and charged at Galle; so that this percentage is somewhat above the correct proportion chargeable against the revenue of the Galle District.

The drop in the value of imports is entirely due to the small supply of coal received during the year, only 20,563 tons against 41,674 in 1886 and 38,140 in 1885. I believe this was owing to an unexpected rise in freights, which led importers to delay replenishing their stocks until they could do so at lower rates. The consequence was, the stock ran exceedingly low and there was at one time apprehension that the demand would exceed the supply. Happily this was averted and the good name of the port was not affected. In grain there is always a good deal of fluctuation, the cause of which I am unable to trace.

The principal exports (produce of the Colony) were :—

	1886.			1887.		
		Quantity.	Value. Rs. c.		Quantity.	Value. Rs. c.
Arecanuts ...	cwt.	6,974 2 14	90,687 0	cwt.	704 2 15	14,030 0
Cinnamon ...	lb.	8,466	4,233 0	lb.	2,600	1,300 0
Cocoanut shells ...	pkgs. / No.	6,413 / 6,400	40,740 0	pkgs.	9,719	59,555 0
Cocoanuts ...	bags / No.	101 / 901,420	58,378 20	No.	1,269,872	50,515 78
Coffee (Liberian)...	cwt.	235 0 16	7,054 30	cwt.	61 0 17	2,751 83
Coir, Rope ...	cwt.	3,798 1 15	47,479 80	cwt.	2,404 1 22	30,055 58
Coir, Fibre ...	cwt.	2,106 2 1	15,798 82	cwt.	1,286 2 4	9,649 2
Coir, Yarn ...	cwt.	47,556 1 5	285,337 77	cwt.	43,833 1 12	263,000 15
Copperah ...	cwt.	5,676 3 6	41,511 0	cwt.	4,744 1 0	34,112 0
Oil (Cinnamon leaf)	oz.	105,388	8,000 0	oz.	30,132	2,171 0
Oil (Citronella) ...	oz.	6,395,905	346,686 50	oz.	7,069,867½	325,580 55
Oil (Cocoanut) ...	cwt.	33,565 1 15	417,702 53	cwt.	32,940 3 25	409,932 10
Plumbago ...	cwt.	14,328 0 13	143,281 15	cwt.	13,707 3 8	137,078 63
Arrack ...	gals.	41,326	37,731 0	gals.	57,506	57,816 0
Tea ...	lb.	104,655	68,025 75	lb.	160,714½	96,428 70
Timber (Sapu) ...	cwt.	369 1 1	2,010 0	cwt.	2,877 3 20	14,490 0
Woods, of sorts ...	pkgs. / No.	669 / 47,711	13,802 0	pkgs. / No.	1,587 / 79,636	12,649 0

A good deal of produce is sent by road to Colombo, so that these figures do not represent all the Province contributes to the marts of the world ; for instance, tea, only about one-forth is exported at Galle.

Shipping.—During the year 471 vessels entered the port inclusive of those calling for coal or orders, as compared with 451 vessels (including 40 sailing ones) which called in 1886 and 460 in 1885.

For coals 238 vessels called in 1885, 219 in 1886 and 258 in 1887.

IV.—FOOD SUPPLY.

I went so fully into the food question last year that I have little to add to what I then wrote.

The local production of paddy in the Province I estimate to have been as follows :—

In the Galle District, very much the same as last year, viz., about 650,000 bushels of paddy.

In Mátara the Assistant Government Agent estimates it at 907,000 bushels. For reasons I will presently give, I think this is under the mark, and that it may be taken at from 1,100,000 to 1,200,000 bushels, but an estimate of 1,000,000 bushels available for food (exclusive of seed paddy) is a safe one.

In Hambantoṭa, where the year was an unfavourable one, the estimate is 230,000 bushels of paddy.

For the whole Province the local production, importation, and consumption may consequently be taken as follows :—

	Paddy locally grown. Bushels.		
Galle	650,000		
Mátara	1,000,000		
Hambantoṭa	230,000		
		1,880,000 —	940,000 bushels of rice
To which add imported at Galle			590,000 „
Also drawn from Colombo for Morawak kóralé estates and Bentoṭa kóralé			20,000 „
			1,550,000

The total rice consumed annually in the Province may be approximately taken at from one and a half to one and three-quarter million of bushels by a population of about 450,000 people. These results are very much the same as deduced last year. In view of the limited production in Galle, I had better add that there is a very considerable body of wage-earners in the District who are withdrawn from the production of food, but engaged in remunerative occupations which place them above want, and enable many to live with a certain degree of comfort and to obtain other articles of food besides rice.

In Mátara the food supply is supplemented by fine grain sown on chenas, equivalent, the Assistant Government Agent concurs, to another bushel a head, besides a considerable quantity of vegetables and other garden products.

In the Hambantota District, though the wet crops were bad the dry cultivation on the high lands was very extensive, reported at 11,500 acres, and was doubtless more in reality, and yielded probably 100,000 bushels of fine grain. The quantity of vegetables grown on these chenas cannot be estimated, but it is enormous and sufficient not only for local consumption, but also to supply the markets of Mátara and Galle as far as Ambalangoḍa, enabling the renter of the toll on the chief outlet to these Districts to give Rs. 3,750 for the right. This may be taken as representing a traffic of 10,000 carts taking a load of a ton each. As the imports to the District are small and the exports are entirely vegetables, it may be assumed that nine-tenths of the carts bring away vegetables of various sorts for the probable value of Rs. 50 each. This estimate is, I think, under the mark, as a good deal is drawn by way of Hakmana, on which route there is only one toll to Mátara against two by the Coast road.

Agricultural Statistics.

Agricultural statistics call for a few words in this connection. I have for the past two years taken much trouble to ensure greater accuracy than has been the rule heretofore.

In Galle, under my own immediate supervision, I have arrived, I believe, at fair approximations, but the returns received from Mátara have been unsatisfactory and contradictory. Some of the figures were glaringly wrong: in one case the excuse was that two of "the Mudaliyárs had apparently entered the yield in kurunies instead of bushels." Under-estimation in regard to paddy can of course be checked, but in regard to other crop it is most difficult. The only way is to insist on returns being made village by village. I am following up my investigations, which there is really no time to complete between the close of the year and the date the Blue Book returns are forwarded, but hope, if I can only find the time, to have more correct figures ready by next year. In regard to the paddy crops in Mátara, I have made a beginning in obtaining independent data for estimating the production, and worked out the following table, which embodies my idea how the gross crop should be estimated in a commuted district:—

Pattu.	Extent, in bushels, cultivated twice in the year.	Extent, in bushels, cultivated once in a year.	Headmen's estimate of Gross Produce from both classes	Grain Commutation from Land cultivated during the year, in rupees.			Mudaliyárs' opinion of the quality of the Crops for both Harvests.	Average crop from Grain Commutation Assessment, in round numbers.	Allowance to be added or deducted for condition of crops of 1887.	Probable Gross Crop less Seed Paddy.
				Annual.	Crop.	Total.				
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
				Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.		Bushels		
Four Gravets ...	762	2683	21026	1132 36	982 37	2114 73	Fair	21000	+ 33⅓ per cent.	28000
Wellaboḍa ...	3768	3540	37608	5565 37	1932 68	7498 5	Pretty good	75000	+ 20 per cent.	90000
Kandaboḍa ...	11518	8226	148084	12053 76	777 74	12831 50	Indifferent	128000	0	128000
Weligam kóralé ...	5477	21210	178775	20001 25	658 34	20659 59	Good	206000	+ 50 per cent.	309000
Gaṇgaboḍa ...	10807	18683	209915	29780 23	400 11	30180 34	Fair	302000	+ 33⅓ per cent.	403000
Morawak kóralé ...	3070	5998	29444	9375 79	109 64	9485 43	Bad	95000	— 25 per cent	70000
Total ...	35402	60340	624852	77908 76	4860 88	82769 64				1028000
Add 10 per cent. allowed for seed paddy by Grain Commissioner (say)										101000
Gross crop, probably (bushels)										1129000
Add unregistered lands cultivated, 6,673 bushels, yielding										50000
Total Gross Crops ...										1179000

The information contained in columns 1 to 7 is obtained from the headmen and Assistant Government Agent, and, except column 3, they show actual figures which can be compiled and verified and do not require any estimation; column 3 gives the Mudaliyárs' estimate of the gross crop; column 8, 9, and 10 are my calculations, and are arrived at in the following manner:—I start with the fact that the Grain Commissioners have estimated the average crop of each field more accurately than any other authority, and that as the value of the paddy was fixed at Re. 1 per bushel the Government tenth in bushels is, in an average year, equal to the number of rupees collected for grain commutation. The gross crop is consequently ten times this plus the ten per cent. allowed under the Ordinance (for seed paddy, &c.). Fixing thus the average crop, allowance has to be made for the crop of the year; and here we are obliged to depend upon the opinion of the headmen, whether the crop is above or below the average, and to what extent. My present approximation is based on each Mudaliyár's view of the whole pattu, but I purpose to go more into detail and obtain the opinion of each vidáné árachchi on each harvest. These headmen, I think, can be fairly relied on for comparisons of this nature, though apt to go much astray when asked for figures of outturn. I have accordingly in column 8 worked out the average crop from the gross revenue of the year. In column 9 I have indicated the allowance to be made in consequence of the Mudaliyárs' report of the condition of the year's crop. In column 10 is the deduced probable crop less the ten per cent.

I make out by this process that the Mátara crop last year gave a gross return of 1,130,000 bushels from the registered land, besides (say) another 50,000 from 6,673 bushels of unregistered land (Crown property) cultivated in the year, or a total of 1,180,000 bushels of paddy, as against 624,852 estimated by the Mudaliyárs and 907,544 by the Assistant Government Agent.

Another way of checking this result is by attaching approximate returns to the extents known to have been cultivated. The 35,000 bushels cultivated twice in the year, being nearly all in the irrigated divisions, may, I think, be fairly considered to have yielded 20 bushels per bushel of sowing extent, and the land once cultivated eight-fold, or a total of 1,260,000 bushels of paddy, which is not very far off the result obtained by the more accurate method.

As bearing on this subject I annex the following extracts from an official report explaining the steps taken to obtain greater accuracy in the agricultural return of the Madras Presidency:—

Agricultural and Fiscal Statistics.—A Conference, of which the Director was a member, was held at Calcutta in December, 1883, for the consideration and revision of the statistical return submitted by the Government of India to the Secretary of State. The Conference was of opinion that, among other things, the Agricultural Department of each province should endeavour to give the public an early forecast of the harvest prospects of any crop that had a special commercial importance. This matter had already received attention in this Presidency, and endeavours had been made in this Department by means of monthly statements of sowings received from Collectors, and by suggestions as to the quantitative valuation of crops, to gauge the agricultural prospects of the year from month to month. The Board of Revenue were opposed to a quantitative valuation by the village officers of the outturn of the crops, and were of opinion that their valuation—they were quite of opinion that this estimate

should, like the other agricultural statistics of the Presidency, have its origin in the village—should be qualitative only, being converted after check by the taluk staff into quantitative values according to fixed standards. This was the view taken by the Conference also.

For the conversion of the qualitative valuations of the outturn into quantitative values according to fixed standards, it is now further proposed not to await the estimates of Collectors, but, as a beginning, to adopt standards drawn up from the valuations of the Settlement Department for settled districts and to apply them generally throughout the Presidency. These values will be subject to correction on consideration of the results of experiments which Collectors have been asked to have made during each harvest season.

The standard of production for the estimate of the outturn of the various products for which harvest forecasts are required, or seem to be desirable, are :—

I.—*Food-grains.*

(1) Paddy	(3) Cumbu
(2) Cholum	(4) Ragi

II.—*Special and Industrial Crops.*

(1) Cotton	(4) Castor and Lamp-oil Seeds
(2) Indigo	(5) Gingelly-oil Seeds
(3) Sugarcane	(6) Tobacco

The standard rates of production taken for the food-grains are based on the grain values of soils taken for settlement purposes.

The first thing to be determined is the average rate of production per acre for all soils taken together.

For this purpose the total area under each class and sort of soil and the total outturn calculated on the grain value, that is, the gross estimated outturn less whatever deduction may have been made for ordinary vicissitudes of season and unprofitable portions of fields assigned to each acre of each class and sort of soil, have been tabulated from returns recorded in the Settlement office.

The total area and its total produce being thus determined, the average per acre for all soils taken together is at once known.

The average thus determined for each settled district I propose to take as the standard for that district, but for districts not yet settled I propose to take the average of all settlements as the standard of production.

The Director proposes to issue in the course of each year four forecasts dealing with crops from the point of view of *area* sown as compared with the standard or normal area under each crop, the latter being taken to be the average of the previous five years' sowings, and four condition and outturn reports dealing with the estimated outturn of crops valued in annas. The forecasts will be issued as soon as possible after the first day of September, December, March, and April, respectively ; the first dealing with the sowings of the early crops, viz., paddy, cholum, cumbu, ragi, and indigo (designated for convenience A) ; the second and third with the sowings, respectively, of the later crops (B),—paddy, cholum, ragi, and cotton,—and (C) of late indigo ; and the last with the planting of sugarcane (D). The condition and outturn reports will be issued after the first day of October, January, April, and June, the first dealing with the condition or probable outturn of the A and D crops ; the second with the outturn of the A and the condition of the B and D crops, and the third with the outturn of the B and D crops and the condition of the C crops, and of the cotton crop (B); while the fourth will deal with the outturn of these last, and be also a final report on the harvest of the year for all crops.

The Director also submits a carefully prepared set of tables of outturn which he proposes to adopt as the standard of production for the estimate of the outturn of the various products for which harvest forecasts are required. The standard rates for the principal food-grains are based on the grain values of soils taken for settlement purposes, and the Director proposes to take the averages which he has worked out for each settled district as the standard for those districts, and the average of all settled districts as the standard for the districts not yet settled and for Tinnevelly, for which the abstracts of the settlement results are not available in the Central Office. For "other food-grains and pulses," and for indigo, cotton, and sugar, he proposes certain standards which are based on the best information on record, and which, on the whole, seem to be sufficiently accurate for all practical purposes. From the standards thus determined, and the statement of sowings and estimates of outturn in annas to be furnished by Collectors forecasts showing quantities will be prepared and published by the Director. With regard to oil-seeds, however, the Director reports that the estimates of outturn given by Collectors differ widely from each other, and he therefore proposes not to assign to those crops any standard rate till the result of certain experiments now being conducted is ascertained, a record of the area on which the crops are raised, and a report on their condition being in the meantime considered sufficient.

The proposal sketched above have the entire approval of the Board, and are submitted for the sanction of Government. To carry them out in practice, the Director suggests that Collectors be required to exhibit in their season reports to the Board the sowings of certain specified products, the probable outturn of the standing crops estimated in annas of a rupee judged by their present condition, and the actual outturn in annas of the crops harvested. The Collectors' estimates will be based on the Thasildars' and theirs again on the village returns and Revenue Inspectors' reports, verified by their own personal observation. The Board would show the estimate of outturn in four main divisions instead of in sixteen, *i.e.*, from one to sixteen annas as apparently contemplated. An estimate, anna by anna, can never be even approximately correct, and would be practically worthless. Four divisions would be quite enough as shown in the form, viz., 16 annas, 12 annas, 8 annas and 4 annas and under. This would be equal to bumper, good, indifferent, and bad. All outturn above 12 annas will be shown under 16 annas, all above 8 and less than 12 annas under 12 annas, and so on.

The Board also consider that it would be a mistake to require the Curnam and Monigar to estimate the outturn of any crop before the month when the ear of cereals begins to form, or for other crops where they are usually sufficiently matured to admit of a fairly accurate estimate of yield being made. For each month until then the crop should be reported as good, indifferent, or bad. In the month when the estimate of outturn is made, the state of the season and rainfall, the supply of water available, and other circumstances, will be taken into consideration, and a fairly accurate estimate be made, which will be followed in the following month by an estimate of the actual outturn of the harvested crops.

The Board are of opinion that no attempt should be made to estimate the outturn for every field. The Village Curnam and Monigar should be required simply to note, from a careful inspection of the crops, on what area a full crop has been or is likely to be obtained, on what area an average or 12-anna crop, and so on. The estimates should be checked by Revenue Inspectors and Tahsildars as far as possible during their frequent tours and tabulated in the Taluk office. The returns from the taluks would be compiled in the Collector's office. Under this plan there would be little risk of mistakes being made in the Taluk or in the Collector's offices, and at the same time it would be easy for the Director, to whom the district reports will be transferred by the Board soon after they are received, to apply his standard rates and calculate the outturn in pounds.

Fish Curing.

Only two yards have been kept open, viz., one at Gandara and one at Hambantota. The Assistant Government Agents give full particulars of the working of each. Gandara is a great success, and 140 tons of fish are reported to have been cured and removed. At Hambantota the last season has been unsuccessful and but few boats have come, owing, it is believed, to a report getting abroad that it would not be re-opened.

V.—LEGISLATION.

Under this head I can only repeat what I wrote last year, viz., that the interests of the Province do not strike me as calling for any special fresh legislation, but they point to the necessity for carrying out some of the provisions of the Ordinance so long in our Statute Book for the registration of titles to landed property. I then gave my reasons for this opinion, and further experience has only served to confirm what I have said and to add to my knowledge of instances in which a registered title would have prevented crime. I have just had to look into the circumstances which recently very nearly led to a serious affray, and found it had its origin in a dispute as to their rights between two persons holding the high social position of Messrs. C. Soyza and Alfred Livera, of Colombo. Each has leased his interest in a valuable garden to local residents, who met on the land ready to do battle over the produce. A serious affray may any day occur in consequence, and as the dispute is rather a complicated one it will be difficult to say who is the original wrongdoer.

A beginning has been made, I am aware, about Colombo, but with one Commissioner and no special surveyors at work it will take ages to make any progress commensurate with the importance of the measure.

VI.—WORKS.

Of those specified last year a beginning has been made with the Dondra light (by the Board of Trade), and funds have been provided for the extension of the Udugama and Morowak kóralé roads. The funds allowed for the latter however are, I understand, to be spent on the Rakwána side, where the benefit to the estates will be immediate; and as no great native interests will be served until the road is right through, it does not much matter which end is first begun if the present trace is adhered to. It has, however, been urged on me that the road would do more good if the trace on the south side of the Gindura valley were adopted from Hayes to Deniyáya through Anningkanda estate.

The works in my opinion that are most required in the Province are the following :—

(*a*) Cemeteries for Galle.
(*b*) Further extension of the Morowak kóralé and Rakwána road.
(*c*) Extension of the telegraph to Mátara.
(*d*) Improvement of the Galle lighthouse.
(*e*) Bridge over the Mágama river on the road to Tissamaharáma.
(*f*) An improved bridge at Hatugalla, halfway between Taṇgalla and Hambantoṭa.
(*g*) An improved bridge at Baṇdattara on the Mátara-Hakmana road.
(*h*) A bridge at Halpatoṭa in Baddégama over the Gindura.
(*i*) A bridge at Wakwella over the Gindura.
(*j*) A wall round the new Police Court at Mátara.

Irrigation works (exclusive of those now in hand) demanding attention are :—

(*k*) Flood outlets in the Galle District, the relief of the Madu-gaṇga or Balapiṭiya lake to be taken up next.
(*l*) The construction of more storage in the line of the Kirama stream in Giruwá pattu.
(*m*) Construction of some more anicuts in the same stream to facilitate distribution.
(*n*) Construction of some more anicuts on the Urubokka stream.
(*o*) The extension of the channels in the Mátara District to increase area irrigated from the existing tanks, and some small works to increase the storage therein.

There are various smaller projects under consideration which the Irrigation Boards are dealing with, and which I need not specify here.

As regards the ordinary works specified by me, I have nothing to add to the grounds given in my last year's report for asking for them. They have all been brought forward frequently, and the only new request I have included is for cemeteries for Galle. Two are urgently required: one to serve for the Kaluwella people residing along the Colombo road, and another for the suburbs stretching out along the Mátara road. There are now no regular cemeteries except for the Christians, and the ordinary natives bury their dead in gardens in the town (the hill on which the Government Agent resides is a favourite locality). The matter has been very fully submitted in correspondence, and I trust the necessary outlay will be shortly sanctioned.

The irrigation works specified in my programme speak for themselves. In the Galle District the rainfall is ample, but there are large tracts of paddy land liable to heavy and long-continued floods in wet weather and subject to damage by the incursion of salt water in the dry. I have very carefully considered the case of these lands, and come to the conclusion that they suffer chiefly from the long continuance at the floods, which sometimes are as much as fifteen days in running off by the existing outlets. This is especially the case in the lands draining into the Madu-gaṇga or Balapiṭiya lake, an extensive backwater containing twenty-two islands, and which communicates with the sea by a very tortuous channel. Here little but a bridge on the Colombo road is required to allow the flood water to escape by a direct route into a nice sheltered cave on the coast. One outlet of (say) 100 ft. in breadth, and cut down to high-water level only, would, I calculate, allow of the very rapid discharge of a heavy flood, while the remaining 2 ft. above low-water mark would escape by the existing outlet if kept free of jungle, fish kraals, &c. The keeping out of the salt water is a cheaper matter, and must be done in detail and separately for each tract by low tanks and small masonry outlets.

The Gindura valley can, I think, be dealt with in a similar manner, but surveys and levels are required, and much depends on the degree of success of the work at Dedduwa, now under construction. If they answer our expection they will encourage others to ask for similar works on similar terms of repayment.

The development and completion of the irrigation works in the Giruwá pattu have been much considered during the year, and various surveys made to test the feasibility of certain proposals. On the Kirame line more storage and greater facilities for distribution are required. In the latter direction two anicuts have been constructed at Ełpiṭiya and Arachchi-amuna, and improved channels traced and cut, which must prove of great assistance to the cultivators. The next large work proposed is a store tank at a place just above Taṇgalla, where a large swamp, known as Namiyal-villu, is I think a suitable site for a store tank, to be filled through a short channel from an anicut in the stream. The surveys show that it is possible here to construct a tank with a five-foot head of water and a spread of 420 acres, of which 280 acres is a Crown uncultivatable swamp at

present of no value. Though the proposed head is small, the average depth will (owing to the level nature of the site) be high in proportion, and the quantity of water stored be very considerable. The tank is sure to be filled in each monsoon, and be further supplemented by freshes in the stream, which rises in a district with a rainfall of 100 inches (against half this in the tank locality). As there is still a margin between the spill level of the tank and the crest of the proposed anicut, the depth could be increased at any time. The area to be benefited is about 2,500 acres.

On the Urubokka-ára additional facilities for distribution are urgently needed, the stream being a rapid one, liable to frequent floods, which destroy the native amunas, of which there are no fewer than twenty-nine between Uḍukirivila and the sea. The line of the stream and the fields have been surveyed by Mr. Silva under Mr. Brunton's supervision, and suitable sites for anicuts chosen, from which it is proposed to trace and open improved lines of channels, and so reduce to four the number of barriers in the river. I am in hopes one of them may be undertaken this year. It also is intended to increase the storage in Uḍukirivila, which can be done at a small expense.

The surveys made further point to the probability of the Urubokka stream being capable of being utilised to serve a considerable extent of additional country, and possibly to irrigate the upper valley of the Kachegala-ára, where there is the nucleus of population.

In the Mátara District a detailed examination disclosed that the plans made by me for distributing channels had been only partially carried out, and that probably another 2,000 acres might be brought under the existing works by their construction. Surveys are now being made with this object.

My Assistants have specified certain works, but I cannot support their requests for the following reasons:—

In Mátara, for Polwatta Bridge. There is already a very fair wooden bridge in existence, and to erect an iron bridge would cost a good deal. As there is now some prospect of a railway to Mátara, I think we may wait in hopes of the erection of a new bridge which will answer for both road and railway.

Kaḍéwidiya Bridge. There is already a wooden bridge, which can be kept up for very little. I have in view a scheme for reclaiming the swamps which drain under this bridge, and which will probably entail some connected works for keeping out the salt water, when all can be undertaken at once.

In Hambantoṭa District. Mr. Murray proposes a series of works I regret I cannot support, in connection with the Tissamaharáma and opening of a channel from the anicut in the Walawé towards Hambantoṭa. There has been already so much spent on Tissamaharáma, and the return is so small, I am decidedly against any further large outlay in this neighbourhood. I cannot therefore support the restoration of the old tanks round Tissa. To small expenditure, to improve the existing works, I am favourable, and so obtained the grant of Rs. 500 to raise the crest of the anicut and throw more water into the channel leading to the tank. I have also recommended the grant of a moderate sum for raising the spill a foot or eighteen inches, and so increasing the capacity of the existing tank. If the Assistant Agent and the District Engineer can, with the upkeep coolies and the cheap sluice invented by Mr. Ward, manage, as recently reported, to store up more water in these old tanks, well and good. Nor can I at present support the application for a channel from the anicut now under construction on the Walawé into the Mágam pattu. I have no doubt it will be wanted, and that before another ten years—possibly sooner; but to carry it out at once would be to burden a promising scheme with a heavy pecuniary outlay, and so lock up a large capital on which no return would come in for many years. Mr. Ward's approximate estimate for the works on the Mágam side is Rs. 200,000, and the works now under construction are estimated to cost Rs. 260,000 and to irrigate 10,000 acres. I advocate our waiting to see how this large area is taken up before venturing any further. These views were during the year laid by me (with the reports of Messrs. Boake and Ward urging the extension) before the Central Irrigation Board, which I am glad to say concurred in the opinion expressed by me.

The railway, though mentioned last, is probably the most important work required to develop the best interests of the Province and to give its produce cheap transport to the larger market at Colombo, and to secure to the metropolitan capitalists easy access to the waste lands of the Galle District so well suited for agricultural operations, whether in tea, cocoanut, or cinnamon.

I last year ventured to suggest that the southern railway should be on a narrower gauge than the up-country lines, an opinion which met with adverse criticism. Further inquiry and consideration have confirmed this view, though I quite concur it was too late to alter the gauge of the up-country line when Nánu-oya had been reached and only a limited distance awaited completion. In the low-country the conditions are reversed: there is only a limited distance on the existing gauge, and railway extension is in its infancy. The time is therefore favourable to take stock of our position and consider if there is room for improvement, and, above all, for economy.

Since the gauge was first fixed for the Main line the views of engineers on this point have undergone change. Much experience, too, has of recent years been gained in Ireland, where narrow-gauge lines have been constructed at very low rates to meet the requirements of country districts likely to contribute only moderate traffic, which can only afford a small capital expenditure.

The estimate for the Chilaw line (published last year) disclosed what we may expect if we adhere to the existing gauge in the low-country, and this view is in no way affected by the (rumoured) exceedingly moderate estimate of the extension to Bentoṭa through a most exceptionally favourable line of country without a single big stream to cross.

Besides the greater possibility of utilising existing bridges at a small outlay by the use of lighter rolling stock, there is another great advantage, in that a narrow-gauge line could be nearly everywhere laid down on our principal roads, on which there would be no traffic when the railway began to run.

I purpose taking steps to have the matter ventilated, and so will say no more here, except to place on record that the people of the Southern Province have not been idle during the year in pressing their claims on the notice of Government. An influential meeting was held at Galle and Mátara, and a memorial forwarded, supported by some reliable statistics of the existing traffic. This was presented to the Legislative Council by Dr. Anthonisz, who has been so long connected with the Province, and who eloquently urged its claims to consideration. Government expressed itself favourably inclined to the proposal; and now that the Haputalé line has been definitely settled we all earnestly hope we shall soon see a beginning made with the southern extension.

VII.—THE PUBLIC WORKS IN PROGRESS.

The public works in progress during the year were nearly all irrigation, and the expenditure was as follows :—

	Rs.	c.	Rs	c.
Construction of—				
Walawé anicut	38,039	98		
Walawé channels	21,291	31		
Dedduwe scheme	4,954	97		
Netulpiṭiya channel	4,999	80		
Elagálla anicut	458	90		
Mágama channel	250	0		
Sluices and masonry spills for four village tanks in Giruwá pattu	4,136	98		
Small works through Government Agent	998	85		
			75,130	79
Surveys :—				
Mágam pattu channel	1,651	55		
Kachchegal-ára valley	499	87		
Mannayalevillu	252	24		
Urubokka valley	1,899	72		
Mátara channel	415	0		
			4,718	38
Total ...	—		79,849	17

These works have all been so fully noted in former reports that it is not necessary to repeat details in this, but particulars of the progress made in the Walawé works are given by Mr. Murray.

The abutments of the Dikwella bridge were washed away by a heavy flood, the volume of which was increased by the bursting of the Weḥella tank. The reconstruction of the bridge is in hand, and the tank has been restored.

Cheap Sluices.—In Mr. Murray's report there is an account of one invented by Mr. Ward for small tanks. It is entirely composed of wood, and it is claimed it can be made for Rs. 50, and will last for years. It has so far been only practically tried with a three-foot head of water, and it is said not to leak. I have not seen it myself, and am somewhat credulous, having cognisance of so many attempts of this sort ending in failure, though apparently promising at first.

An account of my own experiments in this direction will be found in my annual reports on the Mátara District. I do not therefore believe in cheap sluices. The most successful for tanks with moderate head appears to be the type known as "Smith's," put in the tanks of the Giruwá pattu of recent years, and costing Rs. 700 to Rs. 750. It consists of masonry pillars and walls, a certain distance apart, with grooving to carry planking.

The *Irrigation Boards* and their working should be noticed in this connection. It is undoubtedly a matter of great importance to the great body of paddy-growers that by legislative enactment, which cannot be lightly set aside or ignored, a definite share of the revenue contributed by them is to be devoted to improving the irrigation of their lands.

As regards this Province the working of both the Boards has been satisfactory : the recommendations of the Provincial have, as a rule, been endorsed by the Central Board. During the past eighteen months the obstacle to progress has been the want of surveys. This has now been overcome, and the Provincial Board was enabled this year to submit a programme, the only objection to which was that it was rather in excess of the available funds. Provision has been made in the Supply Bill for the following works, and sanction has so far been given, however, to the apportionment of the Rs. 30,000 allotted to the Province :—

	Rs.	Rs.
Provided in Supply Bill :—		
Walawé works	69,210	
Dedduwe	10,000	
		79,210
Provided for from Apportionment :—		
Balance, Dedduwe channels	4,371	
Balance, Netulpiṭiya channels	13,000	
Improvement to Tissa	1,000	
Wakgala bund	2,000	
Improvement to Borale sluices	1,220	
Uḍukiriwila tank	1,510	
Ḗlpiṭiya channel...	600	
Uḍuwa channel	106	
Small works	1,000	
		24,807
Total ...	—	104,017

Of *Administrative Measures* in progress or contemplation, I may refer to the appointment of Foresters for the Province. It has been determined to utilise for this purpose the services of the gentlemen who fill the office of Superintendent of Minor Roads in each District. These gentlemen are continually on the move about their Districts, and have through their overseers and others an agency for hearing of illicit fellings and clearings of Crown jungles independent of the headmen, which is a most useful check, and keeps the subordinate revenue headmen up to the mark, lest the first information of any such irregularity may reach headquarters through another channel. The interests and requirements of the Province in this respect do not require any other more expensive* arrangement for some years to come.

Captain Walker, whose knowledge of the subject is unrivalled in Ceylon, was deputed to examine and report on the forests of the Province. This he has done as regards Galle District, and a copy of his report is annexed. The action taken therein will fall more perfectly under the next annual review of the Province.

The introduction of fresh seed paddy has not been the success hoped for, owing, chiefly, to the apathy of the people ; but I have now succeeded in securing the services of an agricultural

* The service of these three officers is secured for Rs. 1,250 per annum.

instructor and am starting a model farm close to Galle. I have no doubt the operations on it will be successful, but how far we will induce imitation remains to be seen: the spirit of conservatism is so strong.

VIII.—PLANS FOR IMPROVEMENT OF THE PROVINCE.

Those which I have most at heart were very fully set out in last year's report, and may be shortly re-stated as follows:—

(*a*) Development of the irrigation projects of the Province and grant of easy terms for securing the settlement of the lands so brought under cultivation by agriculturists with small means without the intervention of capitalists and money-lenders.
(*b*) Improvement of the sanitary condition of Galle town.
(*c*) Improvement and extension of the means of communication by minor roads.
(*d*) The working up and improvement of the rural headmen.
(*e*) The enforcement of the rules framed by the village communities for the prevention of cattle-stealing.

In regard to the last two points, I may add that I have every reason to believe the headmen of the Galle District are now more efficient than they have been for many years. I have arranged with the Police Magistrates to report to me at once when a headman appears to be in fault, especially as to the execution of process. By me the Mudaliyár's attention is directed to the matter and explanation called for. The headmen are thus aware that all such shortcomings are brought under the notice of the authority in whom their appointment and dismissal are vested. The Superintendent of Police also reports all institutions of serious crime, and enables me to ascertain if the headmen have done their duty in connection therewith. But except in cases of murder or other very serious cases, in which the Superintendent thinks it right to proceed himself to the locality, I have arranged that the Police are not to be sent out without reference to me. I have found this to work very successfully in the Galle District. The rural headmen know that I hold them responsible for the arrest of wrongdoers in their villages, and there are now very rarely excuses made of inability to do so. Government has allowed gratuities in several instances, which have had the happiest effects.

I am now engaged in a report as to the working of headmen, and intend shortly submitting proposals for improving their status at a moderate cost.

As regards the suppression of cattle-stealing, the first point is to secure the proper registration of the cattle and of their distinctive brands. Excellent rules have been passed, but have never been enforced. There has been some delay in obtaining the large supply of printed forms required for this purpose, but I hope soon to make a beginning in this District; and if my application for a small grant of money to employ a special officer on this duty is granted, our operations will be facilitated and much expedited.

I would repeat the expression of opinion in last year's report, that an Assistant Agency should be created at Balapitimódara by vesting the officer stationed there with revenue as well as judicial powers. The grounds for this recommendation are identical with those which led to the creation of Assistant Agencies at Kalutara and Negombo.

The increasing importance of the Giruwá pattu will also soon require some re-arrangement in the Hambantota District, where I think the District Judge of Tangalla might take revenue charge of Giruwá pattu west, and the Hambantota officer's jurisdiction be restricted to Giruwá pattu east and the Mágam pattu. The present duties of the judicial officer stationed at Tangalla are extremely light, and will be still more so when the village tribunal gets to work; while the development of the Walawé scheme and the increasing importance of the Mágam pattu promise to give the Hambantota officer quite enough to do, and to leave him but little time to attend to the western pattu, situated from twenty to thirty miles from his headquarters; even at present he has to leave much to the Mudaliyár, which it is desirable he should more closely supervise himself. This change can, I believe, be carried out without any extra charge on the public purse.

IX.—THOROUGHFARES ORDINANCE.

The following statement exhibits the working of the Ordinance in each District:—

1886.					1887.			
Galle.	Mátara	Hambantota.	Total.		Galle.	Mátara.	Hambantota.	Total.
33,381	33,836	16,340	83,557	... Total on Headmen's List ...	37,687	33,870	15,616	87,173
1,696	3,668	1,500	6,864	... Exempted	1,752	2,648	1,255	5,655
—	—	—	—	.. Dead	367	365	160	892
824	787	248	1,859	... Paid elsewhere	1,158	236	62	1,456
—	—	—	—	... Twice entered	377	278	218	873
2,773	3,774	901	7,448	... Absentees	4,305	3,991	511	8,807
5,293	8,229	2,649	16,171	... Total not liable... ...	7,959	7,518	2,206	17,683
28,088	25,607	13,691	67,386	... Balance liable	29,728	26,352	13,410	69,490
12,851	15,624	6,278	34,753	... Paid at single rate ..	17,945	20,705	8,746	47,396
526	1,173	706	2,405	... Paid at double rate ...	396	692	263	1,351
—	—	—	—	... Labour, single	9,763	4,054	3,359	17,176
12,027	6,784	5,907	24,718	... Labour, double	127	40	143	310
—	—	—	—	... Labour, twenty-four days ...	22	3	75	100
80	84	40	204	... Imprisoned	161	62	6	229
46	5	5	56	... Fined	22	2	4	28
25,530	23,670	12,936	62,136	... Total	28,436	25,558	12,596	66,590
2,558	1,937	755	5,250	... Balance unaccounted for ...	1,292	794	814	2,900
9	7½	5½	8	... Percentage	3·4	2·3	5	3·3

I have in a separate report very fully discussed the working of the Ordinance, analysed the results, secured and explained the circumstances under which we cannot in the Galle and Mátara Districts secure an actual contribution in labour or money from more than 75 per cent. of the totals on our lists, on the basis on which they have hitherto been prepared in this Province, viz., the inclusion of every name known to the headmen not expressly struck off by the Chairmen. Our rough lists consequently bear a higher proportion to the gross population than the recognised one-fifth, and the gross number is believed to be in excess of those returned in the Census as within the statutory limits of age. It follows, under these circumstances, that a large allowance must be made for persons not liable on various grounds, such as deaths during the year and double entries (which cannot well be avoided), both amounting to 2 per cent., while exemptions on grounds of age and sickness come to another 5 per cent. But the great difficulty is to know how to deal with the absentees, who form 13 per cent. of those from whom no contribution is obtained in this Province.* A careful examination of the absentee list of the Galle District has disclosed that (*a*) 15 per cent. are men who are permanently away from their original homes for years, and have no domestic ties likely to bring them back; (*b*) 65 per cent. are men whose occupations are in other Provinces and who seldom or never return home, and whose visits are not of longer duration than a day or two; (*c*) 20 per cent. are men engaged as coolies at distances from their homes on estates and in mines, chiefly in other districts, who visit their villages frequently, but rarely stay more than a week at a time. They are of the poorest classes, who have no property, and are obliged to keep pretty continuously at work to procure a livelihood at a distance as they cannot obtain employment nearer home.

Principal Roads.—The condition of these, though not equal to what it used to be in former years, has been, on the whole, fair, except in the Galle bazaar where the traffic is exceedingly heavy. I have not made any representation, as I did not wish to embarrass action directed to economy or to press on a system which would in time, I believe, secure good roads. Dispensing with a gravel coating over the metal is, in my opinion, a great improvement, and I have followed the example on the Municipal roads, which are now repaired entirely with broken granite, but of a smaller size to suit the lighter traffic. The breaking and piling of the metal before beginning general repairs is also a right precaution against fraud, but in this Province these steps should be taken in two instalments instead of one. At present the first five or six months of the year are taken up in these preliminaries, and the consequence is that the south-west monsoon finds our roads more ill prepared for wet weather than at any other time of the year. I would therefore propose that stone-breaking and piling be confined to the first quarter of the year and then stopped, the material prepared being spread and consolidated in April, May, and June, the latter month being specially favourable to this process. The preparation of further material could be carried out in July, August, and September, and be spread in the last quarter of the year during the north-east monsoon. This variation in detail would not interfere with the Director's system, and would ensure repairs being executed just before the wet weather.

Minor Roads.—In the Galle District there are some 200 miles of cart roads passable for wheels in all weather, one-half of which has been in good order, at an average cost of Rs. 50 per mile, besides 70 miles of bridle and other paths.

In the Mátara District the Assistant Agent claims there are 111 miles of minor roads kept up at a cost of Rs. 135 a mile. The whole of this cannot be cart road, and the outlay is far too high. There is a limited length of carriage road kept in too excellent a style, while much of the District is less accessible than it was thirteen years ago, while there is a large balance of funds in hand. Thus in 1870, on my return from leave, I was able to ride from Urubokka to Mátara by a bridle path recently traced and opened at my instance. This road has been neglected and the very trace lost, so that the present Assistant Agent (apparently not aware of what had been the case) recently remarked in his diary that he felt "like a Stanley" after traversing the intervening country. I have accordingly urged on the Committee the propriety of further opening up the District.

In Hambantota District, with very limited funds the minor roads are kept in very fair order, but the country sadly wants developing and to be made more accessible. To do this Government will have to come to the aid of the Committee, which can best be done by reducing its claims on account of the principal roads.

X.—THE GRAIN TAX ORDINANCE.

I wrote so fully last year on the working of the Grain Tax Ordinance that I have little to add. As the year was not so favourable to paddy cultivation, the collections have been lower, and reduced the average revenue since the introduction of the Grain Tax Ordinance, thus more forcibly disclosing the moderation exercised by the Commissioners who fixed the commutation. The loss by the alteration of the system during the past five years has averaged over Rs. 14,000 per annum besides the additional cost of collections, nearly Rs. 11,000 more, or say Rs. 25,000 in all, or over 14 per cent.

The following return gives a comprehensive view of the incidence of the Grain Tax Ordinance in the Province :—

	Galle.	Mátara.	Hambantota.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Average revenue under Renting System for seven years previous to introduction of the Grain Tax Ordinance ...	69,153	86,820	29,742	185,715
Average revenue under the Grain Tax Ordinance	64,387	83,426	23,473	171,286
Total appearing in registers leviable as annual commutation ...	65,675	78,124	18,737	162,536
Total appearing in registers leviable as crop commutation ...	5,149	12,679	17,075	34,903
Total ...	70,824	90,803	35,812	197,439
	Bhls.	Bhls.	Bhls.	Bhls.
Total sowing extent in registers liable to annual commutation ...	83,214	75,717	18,322	177,253
Total sowing extent in registers liable to crop commutation ...	8,079	13,352	19,112	40,643
Total ...	91,293	89,069	37,434	217,896

* It is believed that many of this class pay elsewhere in the Island.

The coercive measures taken to enforce recoveries were as follows since the introduction of the Ordinance :—

		Galle.	Mátara.	Hambantota.	Total.
Sales to private persons ...	1883 ...	283	—	—	283
	1884 ...	390	100	13	503
	1885 ...	291	289	44	624
	1886 ...	167	126	31	324
	1887 ...	222	197	32	451
	Total ...	1,353	712	120	2,185
Purchased by the Crown...	1883* ...	72	—	—	72
	1884 ...	232	48	—	280
	1885 ...	468	113	39	620
	1886 ...	504	75	35	614
	1887 ...	385	51	46	482
	Total ...	1,661	287	120	2,068
Subsequently redeemed ...		113	14	9	136
Total number of lots in register ...		31,384	27,994	9,668	69,046
Proportion of all sales to lots during 1887		1 in 51	1 in 112	1 in 123	1 in 74
Proportion of outside sales to lots during 1887		1 in 141	1 in 142	1 in 302	1 in 153

XI.—SANITARY CONDITION.

The health of the Province may, on the whole, be reported as having been satisfactory during the year. The excess of births registered over deaths was 5,279.

In the Galle District the deaths were nearly 1,200 fewer and the births 1,000 higher than in 1886. The fever which marked the previous year, and was specially severe in the Gindura valley, quite disappeared, and this tract of country was remarkably healthy this year. An epidemic of smallpox, however, appeared, and has proved very troublesome in the coast districts. It originally broke out at Bentota in the first quarter of the year, and quickly reached the town of Galle, where it has been found impossible to get rid of it entirely in spite of the active steps taken by the Municipality and the Medical Department (Mr. Thomasz, Assistant Colonial Surgeon in charge of smallpox duties, especially distinguishing himself by his attention and energy). It has however been kept in check by strictly enforcing removal to the hospital or some approved isolated locality for treatment. The chances of infection were thus reduced, and only one death occurred within the town in a case of concealment early in the outbreak, and for non-report of which the householder, a Moorman, was fined. The prejudice of the Mohammedans, who are the most difficult to deal with in such matters, were met by permitting them to provide a suitable locality for the treatment of their own people, attendants, &c., being found free of expense to Government, but medical advice being offered gratis to those who would accept it. Mr. Abdul Cader, Member of the Municipal Council, cordially co-operated in making this arrangement, and there was subsequently no trouble about removal nor reason for believing any cases were concealed. At the instance of the Municipality the Principal Civil Medical Officer has provided the services of a qualified female vaccinator to work amongst the Moors in Galle town. This and other measures taken have led to a very large number of persons being vaccinated in the District, which doubtless has prevented the disease spreading, though, I regret to say, it still hangs about in the rural districts.

In Mátara District the public health was excellent, and the increase in the population was 1½ per cent. within the year. There was a little smallpox, but there was less fever and dysentery as compared with the previous year.

In Hambantota the sanitary condition was satisfactory till quite the end of the year, and in December there was a very severe outbreak of fever, which lasted through January and February of the present year, but has now disappeared, I am glad to say. I would call special attention to the rapid rate of increase of the population in the Hambantota District—no less than 8·2 in the last six years.

The following table shows the population on December 31, 1887, as deduced from the census returns and subsequent registrations :—

	Galle.	Mátara.	Hambantota.	Total.
Population by census of 1881 ...	209,680	151,923	71,917	433,520
Subsequent births registered to December 31, 1887 ...	39,413	31,839	18,275	89,527
Subsequent deaths registered to December 31, 1887 ...	30,929	20,147	12,355	63,431
Excess of births	8,484	11,692	5,920	26,096
Deduced population on December 31, 1887	218,164	163,615	77,837	459,616
Rate per cent. of increase since census	4	7·7	8·2	6

No further dispensaries have been opened in the Province, and I would invite attention to the remarks under this head in last year's report.

XII.—CRIME.

In the Galle District serious crime, such as is triable by the Supreme Court, shows a slight increase, and there were capital convictions in four cases. One of these was the Sinigoda murder, in which seven persons were killed by a Tamil servant, most probably under the influence of drink; but no motive for the crime was ever disclosed. The man was soon caught, tried, and executed. At the last he admitted his guilt and was very penitent. There was another serious homicide at Máléwana in the Wellaboda pattu, in which one at least of the two headmen killed brought his fate on himself.

* Lands bought for the Crown from 1883–86 were restored at the Jubilee to the former owners.

To pay out a grudge and obtain possession of some property a second vidáne árachchi trumped up a false complaint of theft, and insisted on searching the house of a man with whom he was on bad terms. He was warned not to enter the compound, or he would be assaulted; he did, and was killed, as was a police officer he had summoned to his assistance. Certain accused were put on their trial, and though some at least were undoubtedly guilty and ought to have been punished for using too much violence, all were acquitted, as the identification was considered by the jury unsatisfactory, the fracas having occurred at night. A notorious bad character of Ratgama was also convicted of murder with his son, and executed, and a fourth young man shared the same fate for having killed a husband when discovered in an intrigue with his wife.

There was also an increase in the number of persons convicted before the District Court and Police Court of the District. Cattle-stealing was, I think, on the whole, rather less, and was checked in several localities by having the bad characters bound over under the Code.

In Mátara the number of trials before the Supreme Court was much the same, but a larger number of persons were convicted, viz., thirteen as against six. There was a considerable falling off before the Police Court both in cases and persons convicted, and a very considerable reduction in the amount of the fines recovered, from Rs. 1,961 to Rs. 620, which the Assistant Agent ascribes to undue leniency in the administration of justice. Cattle-stealing is said to have been prevalent, and there were 215 cases instituted against 223 in 1886, but convictions were only obtained in 25 instances.

In Hambantota the Assistant Agent reports that the Sinhalese new year was marked by the occurrence of the usual cases of assault, some of them of rather a serious nature; and cattle-stealing was not so prevalent as in former years.

XIII.—CATTLE.

The health of the cattle throughout the Province was satisfactory during the year. There was no murrain or other epidemic; a little foot-and-mouth disease appeared here and there at times, but did no great damage. The number of black cattle and buffaloes in the Province is reported to be as under:—

	Black Cattle.	Buffaloes.	Total.	Area under Paddy Cultivation. Acres.
Galle ...	27,000	19,600	46,600	42,670
Mátara ...	23,900	9,100	33,000	48,530
Hambantota	22,500	11,900	34,400	13,000
	73,400	40,600	114,000	104,200

The paucity of buffaloes in Mátara is remarkable, and is due to the want of suitable pasture.

XIV.—NEW AREAS OF CULTIVATION.

The additional area brought under paddy cultivation during the year was small, and will remain so in the Galle and Mátara Districts, but in Hambantota a large increase will, it is hoped, follow on the completion of the Walawé scheme.

As regards other agricultural industries, the planting of tea goes on apace, especially in the Galle District. The latest figures I have had compiled give the following results:—

	No. of Estates.	Acreage planted.	Approximate Yield. (1887-88 Crop.) lb.
Galle District.			
Four Gravets and Akmimana ...	7	363	28,000
Wellaboda Pattu, &c.* ...	19	1,100	125,000
Gaggaboda Pattu (and Udugama) and Hinidum Pattu† ...	8	1,570	—
Mátara District.			
Morowak Kóralé‡ ...	8	1,686	500,000
Rest of District ...	—	163	—
	42	4,882	653,000

About another 1,000 acres have been cleared and are now being planted up. A limited company has secured a large block of land known as Talgaswella, in the Gindura valley, twenty-five miles from Galle, and about 2,000 acres in extent, originally purchased from Government in the "forties" for sugar, and which now promises to make a very valuable tea property.

Citronella cultivation is being largely extended in the Mátara District.

XV.—NATURE OF WORK.

The nature of work which has chiefly occupied my attention is fairly indicated in what I have written. The routine is, however, so heavy, and the detailed administration of my home District makes so much demand on my time that I am unable to take up various measures I would like to go into. Thus, I had during the past year to deal with 515 petitions addressed to His Excellency the Governor, 183 petitions of appeal in village tribunal cases, and 2,511 petitions on various other subjects addressed to myself, making a total of 3,209.

The settlement of claims to surveyed lands is also a heavy tax on one's time, though much simplified by the reasonable terms Government have now authorised. As the surveyors used in former days to survey what they pleased, we have on our rolls thousands of lots said to be "claimed" mixed up with lots undoubtedly Crown property. It is very desirable that these should be dealt with and the claimants induced to buy out the Crown interest or accept certificates of quiet possession,

* Including the country between the Gindura and Bentota river.
† Young, very little in bearing; expected to yield 200,000 lb. in 1888-89 season.
‡ Not the whole district known as such in the planting world, but only the estates within the Revenue District of of Mátara, and exclusive of Hayes, &c., at the upper end of the valley.

alike to settle the question of claims and also to recover some of the cost of survey. During the year settlements have been made in 866 such cases, involving an area of 947 acres 3 roods 36 perches.

XVI.—VILLAGE TRIBUNALS.

Village tribunals continue to work satisfactorily both in the Galle and Mátara Districts. In Galle tribunals with full powers exist only in two pattus—the Bentota-Wallalláwiti kóralé and Hinidum pattu—and in these pattus the criminal and civil cases instituted have been 1,869. In Mátara tribunals with full powers exist in four divisions, and the number of institutions have been 8,411. The number of undecided cases at the end of the year were 15 in Galle and 98 in Mátara. The number of appeals have been as follows :—

	Tota Number.		Set aside.	
	Galle.	Mátara.	Galle.	Mátara.
To Government Agent or Assistant ...	113 ...	440 ...	13 ...	13
To the Governor in Council ...	5 ...	47 ...	— ...	1

I repeat the suggestion made last year that stamps be enforced in civil cases.

XVII.—LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARDS.

Galle Municipality.

The revenue for the year was Rs. 49,938 (inclusive of Rs. 10,477 collected on account of police assessment and paid over to Government) against Rs. 48,735 in 1886 and Rs. 52,618 in 1885. In fact this is the lowest revenue ever collected by the Municipality ; but in view of the signs of some returning prosperity, the Council has felt justified in estimating the revenue of the current year at Rs. 48,500, including Rs. 10,000 on account of police.

The expenditure was Rs. 47,096 including police charges, and Rs. 36,620 exclusive thereof.

I have recently written at some length on a proposal to replace the Municipality by a Local Board, after fully reviewing the position, and reported against it. In doing so I have pointed out that it is probable the Municipality can depend on a minimum revenue of Rs. 38,000, while the ordinary expenditure could be restricted to Rs. 34,000, leaving a margin of Rs. 4,000 for improvements.

A Local Board, on the other hand, would only have a revenue of Rs. 23,400, which would be insufficient to meet annual charges for roads and sanitation, estimated at Rs. 29,000, leaving a deficit of Rs. 5,600 after making full allowance for all possible savings on Establishment.

The condition of the roads has been much improved during the year. The use of gravel coating in the metalled roads has been abandoned, and by using small stone a much better surface has been obtained, with the great advantage that the mud which prevailed in wet weather has been largely got rid of—a great desideratum, especially in the Fort, where a considerable proportion of the community traverse the streets on foot in all weathers.

The introduction of the new Ordinance has made some difference in the constitution of the Council, and two wards are unrepresented owing to the electors in each being less than twenty, the minimum number required to return a member. The Council is now constituted of the Chairman and two officials and three elected and one nominated member. The elected and nominated members are gentlemen of good standing in their respective communities, take a great interest in the working of the Municipality, and our relations have during the year been marked by great cordiality.

Local Board, Mátara.

The Assistant Agent has furnished a report on the working of this institution, from which I gather the revenue during 1887 was Rs. 4,933 as against Rs. 4,284 in 1886, and an average of Rs. 5,687 during the past ten years. The expenditure was Rs. 5,011 against Rs. 5,055 in 1886. The decrease in the revenue is attributed chiefly to the discontinuance of 2½ per cent. on house property. The Board has eight miles of road in its charge, which it has kept in repair at a cost of Rs. 187. Reduction in expenditure has been secured by a saving in the cost of lighting the town. Owing to the retirement of the Secretary this office has been combined with the Inspectorship, and thus reduced the cost of establishment from 38 to 31 per cent. on the gross expenditure.

At five meetings there was no quorum, which does not bear out the arguments adduced by the Assistant Agent in favour of the extension of local Government in his annual report.

XVIII.—MEMORABLE EVENTS.

The great event of the year was of course the celebration of the jubilee of Her Gracious Majesty's accession to the throne of the British Empire. All classes of the community joined most cordially in the efforts made to give *éclat* to the event. As a full account of the various rejoicings has been published in a special Sessional Paper, I need here only mention that the permanent memorials have taken the following shape :—

A public park at Galle.
An ambalam, or resthouse, for the accommodation of headmen and other respectable native visitors to Galle.
A hospital at Balapitimódara.
A jubilee well at Hambantota.
The institution of an Agri-Horticultural Society at Mátara.

An event which will be long sadly remembered in Galle was the removal of the cannons from the walls of the Fort, followed by the departure of the whole of the military early in this year. It has been officially announced that this has been done in pursuance of an Imperial policy restricting the defences in the colonies to certain points, but in considering the claims of Galle I fear it has been taken for granted it would (in consequence of the construction of the Breakwater at Colombo) have been extinguished as a port of call. As this has not occurred, and there will consequently be always a considerable quantity of coal in store, it seems to those locally aware of the facts a mistake to leave this point bare of all protection.

A cargo steamer, the Ascalon, was wrecked on the coast fourteen miles north of Galle—a disaster largely due to the inferiority and limited range of the Galle light. In consequence of this, I understand vessels passing round Ceylon have to steer a course bound to bring them close on to the shore, and if owing to a set of unexpected current to the north the master fails to make the light, he is very likely to find himself ashore when under the impression he is still miles off the coast.

XIX.—CONCLUSION.

Reports on the Hambantoṭa and Mátara Districts by the respective Assistant Agents are also enclosed. Mr. Baumgartner especially has written at considerable length, and is full of plans for the improvement and development of the highly-flourishing District of which he has charge. In my report I have referred to some of these, and the only further remark I feel called on to add is, that in advocating the extension of local government he has overlooked the fact that in the Municipalities, Local Boards, Road Committees, and Village Communities, there has been accorded a very large measure of local self-government to the people of this Island, in which my experience is that it is exceedingly difficult to induce the public to take a sufficient interest.

E. ELLIOTT,
Acting Government Agent.

Galle Kachchéri, April 2, 1888.

ANNEXURE.

Report by CAPTAIN WALKER on the Forests of the Galle District.

I HAVE inspected the principal forests in the Galle District that are considered of value or likely to be worth reserving on account of the timber they contain. I have visited only those that are accessible and so situated that the timber can be removed with any hope of its being made to pay.

The forests are chiefly on hills very rocky and steep, and the approach to them from all sides is generally through marshes and swampy paddy fields, making the transport very difficult. In none that I have seen is there a possibility of making a road or tract where a cart can be employed, nor can any beast be used in hauling out the timber. All transports from the forests to the rivers or roads by which the timber is finally to be removed to its destination must be done by manual labour. In most cases it will not even be possible to remove unsawn logs, except perhaps those intended for bridge piles; everything else must be sawn on the spot where the tree falls.

A quantity of good and serviceable timber is to be had in most of the forests, such as milla, *Vitex altissima;* mendóra, *Vatica Roxburghiana;* ubbériya, *Carallia calycina;* ná, *Mesua ferrea;* del, *Artocarpus nobilis;* and many other useful woods for the commoner classes in daily use; but those that I have enumerated are the most valuable.

The Public Works Department are in the habit, I believe, of purchasing most of the timber they use for bridges, house-building, &c., from local contractors, who supply it sawn up to the required dimensions. They have also been in the habit of drawing a supply (chiefly satinwood) from the Eastern Province, which they use for bridges and other works.

The forests in the Galle District contain woods quite as suitable for bridges, house-building, or any other works likely to be carried on, as can be procured from any other parts of Ceylon; and I can see no reason why timber should be sent all the way from the Eastern Province to this for the use of the Public Works Department, if they are prepared (as I believe they are) to take what they require in a sawn state and not altogether in log.

I am confident that the Forester can supply them with all they require at as cheap a rate as they can purchase from contractors, and at same time return a better profit to Government for the timber taken from the forests than that which can be derived from any royalty paid by contractors who may obtain licenses to cut in Crown forests.

Contractors to the Public Works Department up to the present time are supposed to get their wood from lands in the hands of private parties, but where boundaries of both private and Crown forests are so little known, it is not unreasonable to suppose that pilfering goes on in Crown forests.

In a very short time, however, these private forests will all have been cleared or the timber become exhausted, when these contractors, if they are to continue to supply the Public Works Department, must fall back upon the Crown forests altogether.

The Provincial Engineer has kindly furnished me with a statement showing what is used by his Department yearly in the Galle District alone, amounting to 3,000 cubic ft. of timber; 2,000 ft. of this is sawn wood and 1,000 unsawn or in log, chiefly ironwood for bridge piles.

The Forester will have no difficulty in supplying both sawn and unsawn at the rates given by the Provincial Engineer, or even less if so desired.

The requirements of the District can in all cases be met by the Forest Department if small depôts are established and periodical sales held of such woods as are required for local use. Two or three depôts on the Colombo-Galle road, say, one at Bentoṭa, Ambalaṇgoḍa, and at Mahamódara, one mile from Galle, should for the present suffice. These places will, I think, also be convenient for the Public Works Department, as most of the timber they require is for that road.

I attended a small sale held by the Forester in December last at Ḷpiṭiya. The timber offered for sale was all sawn wood for house-building, such as door frames, wall plates, beams, rafters, &c., and a few canoes. Although it was not all sold, yet I believe what was actually disposed of was at fairly remunerative prices, and considering that this was only a trial sale and the first held in the District, it may, I think, be considered a success.

Ḷpiṭiya is ten miles from the Colombo road, a place with a not very large population; and as nearly all the purchasers came from Bentoṭa and Ambalaṇgoḍa, it may reasonably be supposed that a readier sale and better prices would have been obtained had it been held, say, at Bentoṭa, where the timber could have been taken without much additional cost.

I annex a list of the forests I consider the most valuable, and which I think should be reserved. I have not attempted to give the boundaries at present: they are known by so many different names. In one large unbroken tract each knoll is known to the natives under a different name.

I think if after inquiry you approve of the forests I have selected as timber reserves, the chief headmen are asked to give the boundaries of each tract as a whole, they will be able to do so. They can easily be determined and marked by the Forester afterwards.

By far the most valuable forests are those in Hinidum and Gaṇgaboḍa pattus, from their proximity to the Gindura river. Those I have named are within a distance to make transport from the forests to the river possible; once in the river the further transit is very easy and inexpensive.

Berelia Mukalána, in Bentoṭa kóralé, is also a large and valuable forest. It contains all the best woods in considerable quantity, which can be taken out both to the Bentoṭa and Gindura rivers. From these forests timber for many years can be had sufficient to supply the Public Works and other Government Departments as well as local requirements. There are, in addition, many small forests which have ample timber for all village uses, and should the railway be brought to Galle there are many jungles along both the Gindura and Bentoṭa rivers which will become valuable as fuel reserves.

There can be but little doubt, I think, that in past years a great deal of illicit timber-felling has been carried on in Crown forests in this District, and which to some extent still continues. It is most practised now, I think, in the forests and jungles along the Bentoṭa and Gindura rivers. As I have before stated, timber has all to be sawn up before removal; once sawn the practice is to carry or drag it out to the swamps or marshes which on all sides surround the forests; there it is left concealed until a favourable opportunity offers to remove it to the rivers.

It is in these rivers where I consider there is some hope of detecting and putting a stop to these timber frauds. Each superior headman should have a distinctive stamp, and should brand all timber cut on private lands before it is removed from the spot where it has been cut. The headman should, I think, report to the kachchéri the nature of the timber he has stamped and the name of the party to whom it belongs. The owner should then apply to, and obtain his permit from, the kachchéri for removal. This has been the practice in the Eastern Province for some years, and it has worked well. The proprietor of the timber before obtaining his permit for removal has also been obliged to lodge the stamping fees in the kachchéri according to the number of pieces stamped. These fees are then drawn by the headmen from the kachchéri.

In Crown timber reserves, if contractors are cutting wood for Government or on licenses granted to them, this should, I think, be stamped under the supervision of the Forester, and permits for removal granted by him or by the kachchéri.

On both Bentoṭa and Gindura rivers a paid kangáni or overseer should be stationed, whose duty it will be to inspect and pass all timber coming down the river and to seize all wood above a certain size unless it bears the proper stamp mark, the permit for removal being at the same time produced. The permit itself should give full particulars as laid down in section 46, chapter 5, of the Forest Ordinance No. 10 of 1885. If these rules are strictly enforced and the headmen exert their authority a little, it will, I think, be the means of putting a stop in a great measure to further timber frauds; but permits for removal of timber from private lands should issue from the kachchéri and not from the headman, of which the Forester should at once receive a copy.

The places where I would suggest paid overseers or watchers to be stationed are, one at Bópé bridge on the Gindura river, and the other to the Bentoṭa river at some place a few miles from the mouth.

I have been told that there are three paid watchers stationed on the Western Province bank of the Bentoṭa river, whose duty is to examine all timber coming down the rivers belonging to that Province; but so long as there is no check on the Galle side, these watchers can only be of use in detecting stolen timber on its way to the river.

The detection of firewood illicitly cut is a much more difficult matter. This cannot be stamped, and so by rules and regulations dated Colombo, September 1, 1887, made under chapters 5 and 6 of Ordinance No. 10 of 1885, timber below 6 ft. in length and 3 in. in diameter require no pass or permit for removal. A great proportion of firewood cut will not exceed these dimensions.

I reported specially on the application of the Messrs. Winter to cut firewood for their factory at Baddégama. That firm have for many years been in the custom of cutting firewood free of royalty. I inspected the localities from which they draw their supply. It being entirely taken from the swamps, better known as waturáwas, I consider that, as they were really doing more good than harm in clearing away the underwood from the swamps (for that is what they actually do cut), and the wood itself being so small and worthless, no royalty should be charged. See report No. 168 of January 28, 1888.

The Muhandiram of Nágoḍa, who has also a factory on the Gindura river, applies for a permit to cut firewood from certain Crown jungles. See report No. 173 of 8th instant.

There are numerous small sugar manufactories and citronella oil stills in the District. It is unreasonable to suppose that when land is purchased from the Crown for the purpose of cultivating sugarcane or lemongrass, that the Crown is bound to supply firewood for the factories, but which is really done at present. I think the practice of giving permits for firewood in Crown jungles should be put a stop to as much as possible, and in all cases where passes are given that the owners of these factories be made to pay a royalty on the wood they cut.

The supply of firewood for the town of Galle is drawn, I believe, chiefly from small jungles along the Kótuwa road and in Akmimana division. The people who cut the wood are mostly of the very poorest class, this being their only occupation. They have no permits and pay no royalty.

I do not see very well how the cutting of firewood can be put a stop to, even were it considered advisable to do so, but I think that in all cases permits should be taken out and only those jungles mentioned in the permits allowed, and not in any jungle indiscriminately as now. A small nominal fee might be perhaps charged when issuing the permits, which might induce those paying this fee to inform on others who have no permit and who have paid nothing. The description of firewood cut for the supply of Galle town should not be allowed to exceed 3 in. or 4 in. in diameter of unsplit wood.

Mr. Erskine, who is Acting Forester for this District, has done and is doing as much as any man can possibly do with the small means at his disposal in putting a stop to illicit timber-felling. He is intimately acquainted with all the forests and jungles, but he requires an assistant of some sort, who should be entirely at his disposal to send about when and where he may choose. I think a man can be found to render all the assistance he will require whose pay need not exceed Rs. 20 or Rs. 25 a month.

A. M. WALKER,
Forester.

REPORT ON THE MÁTARA DISTRICT FOR 1887.

I.—INTRODUCTION.

THE area of the District is 548 square miles, and the population, allowing for the excess of reported births over deaths since the census of 1881, is 163,145, or on an average 297 to the square mile. It is thus one of the most densely-populated Districts in the Island.

II.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The revenue was Rs. 168,799·94 as compared with Rs. 168,549·63 for 1886, showing a small increase of Rs. 250·31.

There were increased recoveries amounting to Rs. 2,496·85 under the heads *Land Revenue, Rents, Stamps*, and *Sale of Government Property* (Salt and Timber), and decreases amounting to Rs. 2,619·02 under the heads *Arrears, Land Sales, Fines*. (It should however be noted that though there is an apparent increase of only Rs. 653·57 under the head *Stamps*, had not the supply of postage stamps been procured from Colombo instead of from the Mátara kachchéri as hitherto, there would have been a total increase under the head *Stamps* of at least Rs. 3,263·23.) These results cannot but be considered as most satisfactory, for while the increases appear under heads of revenue which represent developing agriculture and trade, the decreases occur only under heads which cannot be regarded as satisfactory sources of revenue, and therefore indicate no check in the continued prosperity of the District.

These figures are exclusive of revenue under the head *Licenses* (Arrack Rents), which is collected at Galle. The rents of the Mátara District for 1887–88 were sold for Rs. 2,250 in excess of the amount for 1886–87.

The expenditure during the year was Rs. 69,873·60 as compared with Rs. 72,901·19 during 1886, showing a decrease of Rs. 3,027·59, and the percentage which it bears to the revenue (including Arrack) is 34 per cent., as compared with nearly 36 per cent. for 1886.

III.—AGRICULTURE, TRADE, AND FOOD SUPPLY.

Except the fishermen along the coast, the population of the District is almost entirely an agricultural one. The greater proportion of their food supply is therefore locally produced.

Paddy.—The estimated area under paddy cultivation, including the extent twice cultivated, was 95,742 bushels, and the probable yield may, I think, be taken at 12-fold on the extent twice cultivated and 8-fold on the extent once cultivated, giving a total produce of 907,544 bushels of paddy, or half that quantity of rice, which is equivalent to over 2¾ bushels of rice per head of the population.

The imported rice may, I think, be estimated at a bushel a head in addition to this, giving a total consumption of rice per head of about 3¾ bushels.

If, however, paddy commutation tax is to be taken as the fair average value of the Crown share (one-tenth, one-fifth, or one-eighth), the total quantity of paddy produced cannot be estimated at more than 827,000 bushels. The difference (viz., 80,544 bushels) between these quantities represents the crops grown on unregistered Crown and private fields as well as the produce on which the tithe is lost to Government by the substitution of commutation for the renting system.

Fine Grain.—The other articles of food supply next in importance to rice are fine grain, vegetables, fruit, and fish. The amount recovered as value of the Crown one-tenth share of fine grain grown on private lands was Rs. 1,673 as compared with Rs. 2,765 for 1886, and the value recovered as the Crown one-fifth share of that grown on Crown lands was Rs. 3,280. Assuming these shares to be the total due, the value of the whole produce would be Rs. 33,130, which, at fifty cents a bushel, represents a total produce of 66,260 bushels of fine grain or not quite half a bushel per head of population. The revenue recoveries under this head are, however, admittedly low (due to under-assessment as well as omission of large extents cultivated in inaccessible parts of the District), and I concur with the Government Agent in believing that at least half a bushel of fine grain per head may be counted towards the food supply of the population.

The estimated area cultivated with dry grain (as furnished for the Blue Book, compiled from the Mudaliyars' returns) is mere guess work, and is evidently incorrect.

Vegetables and Fruit.—The area under vegetable and miscellaneous cultivation is reported to be 10,264 acres as compared with 8,816 for 1886, showing an increase of 1,448 acres, which is more than accounted for by increased citronella cultivation.

A market garden for vegetables was started by me in Mátara in September, and though most successful had not time within the year to show a pecuniary profit. The expenditure in starting it and for its upkeep during the four months was Rs. 33·50, while the receipts by sale of vegetables was Rs. 11·42. This year I hope to show a profit in its accounts, as well as be the means of showing the people what the soil is capable of producing when only industry is applied to it.

The area under the head Gardens has been estimated to be 14,788 acres as compared with 12,447 acres for 1886.

Fisheries.—As the District includes over thirty miles of coast line studded with bays in which an enormous quantity and variety of fish abound, the fishing industry is one which gives occupation to a large portion of the population, and provides an annually increasing source of food supply.

Since the fisheries ceased to be a Government monopoly (1840), no statistics have been kept as to the value of the fish caught, but an approximate estimate may be formed from the results of the fish-curing yards which Government have in recent years established at different fishing centres along the coast. There is only one of these in this District, namely at Gandara, and I annex

a copy of a report made by me with regard to its working during the year ended June 30, 1887.* In addition to the satisfactory results I have therein reported, I have now only to add that the quantity of fish brought into the yard during the year was 140 tons, or on an average of 11⅔ tons per month, as compared with an average supply of 6⅔ tons per month in 1886.

To summarise, it may be said that the principal articles of food supply, viz., paddy, fine grain, vegetables, fruit, and fish, were all plentiful, and their prices in the local markets proportionately cheap. Six cents (or an English penny) a day spent on any of these would procure sufficient nourishment for the actual bare subsistence of an ordinary villager.

Estate Produce.—The acreage under tea is about 1,850 acres, of which 1,686 acres in the Morowak kóralé form eight estates, all the property and in charge of Europeans. These alone exported upwards of 500,000 lb. of tea during the year.

The new clearings made during the year may be estimated at 300 acres.

The acreage of tea under native cultivation is about 163 acres. The produce of most of these estates, and the rice and stores, &c., required on them, has to be carted a distance of over fifty miles to the nearest port of shipment, Galle. The estimated acreage under citronella cultivation is 8,456 acres, a form of agriculture which, owing to the rise in the price of oil, has been largely developed during the year. With regard to citronella grass, its form of cultivation is so simple, the labour required so slight, and the oil is extracted so cheaply, that almost everywhere throughout the District the poorest villager now has his patch of citronella. Some Mudaliyárs complain that even paddy cultivation is being neglected for this comparatively new product. Dry grain cultivation has certainly decreased owing to it; almost every *atmaga* (the belt of land surrounding paddy fields which is cleared of jungle for the protection of the paddy crops from wild animals) hitherto cultivated with dry grain is now planted with citronella. The demand for Crown land on this account has been largely increased, and sales have not been equal to the demand. Of the total extent of Crown land sold during the year at least 500 acres may be estimated as bought for citronella cultivation, and of the Crown lands rented over 1,000 acres were occupied for the same purpose. If the price of oil remains the same, these figures will, I believe, for the current year be doubled.

Trade.—Unconnected with agriculture there can hardly be said to be any special trade calling for notice in the District. Rush mats, coir matting, pottery, and lace are the only manufactures which afford a means of livelihood to a few families scattered throughout the District. These, I am sure, are capable of development, and the encouragement which an annual exhibition and the competition it involves will, I hope, do much towards showing how far improvement is feasible. With regard to pottery, I hesitate to say what results I believe might be attained, lest I should be considered "flighty." With some little knowledge, however, of the pits from which China clay is dug on Cornwall, as well as of its subsequent manufacture at Worcester and other well-known porcelain manufactories of China of the choicest as well as commonest description, I believe that a scientific investigation of the clays of this country would be a most profitable undertaking. This is only one of the many respects in which I think the services of a Government geologist could with advantage, at least temporarily, be most profitably employed.

Gemming has as usual provided a precarious, though in some cases profitable, means of living to numbers of people in the District, though the number of applications for licenses to dig for gems on Crown land has decreased from 99 in 1886 to 29 in 1887.

A gemming rush in 1886 met apparently with disappointment, which not even a find in January, 1887, of an Alexandrite weighing 1,867 carats could dispel. This wonderful stone was found near Weligama by a Moorish priest, who ultimately obtained Rs. 12,000 for it.

Irrigation.—In a District where so much has been done towards the development of a perfect irrigation system, there is little left to be said, beyond calling attention to the fact that it is the best paddy-producing District in the Island, and that, were proofs needed of the benefits of sometimes most costly irrigation works, it is here they can best be found.

No new works were undertaken during the year, and only a few works of comparatively minor importance were recommended by me for the consideration of the Irrigation Board. Of these, the construction of an anicut and sluice at Rotumba is the most deserving of attention and will, I hope, be soon provided for.

Cattle.—Except in one division, there was no cattle disease in the District during the year. In the Weligam kóralé, where a few cases of foot-and-mouth disease appeared, timely segregation of infected animals prevented the disease being spread.

Grain Tax.—The Grain Tax Ordinance, and the new system it has involved for the last five years, continues to form the subject of constant complaint. The majority of paddy taxpayers object to payment being required in money instead of in kind, and also object to the non-acceptance of shares of tax, whereby an unscrupulous shareholder by his own wilful default can procure the enforced sale of a land of which he may wish to become sole proprietor. These are objections from a taxpayer's point of view, and are not without foundation. There are also objections to the system from a revenue point of view, which I have alluded to in my remarks under the head "Paddy," where I have shown that there is a possible loss to Government (independent of increased cost of collection) which I attribute in great measure to the introduction of the Grain Tax Ordinance. The actual amount of paddy tax collected during 1887 was Rs. 82,653 as compared with Rs. 81,966 for 1886, the increase of Rs. 597 being accounted for by more seasonable weather and consequently fewer exemptions from tax on account of short crops in crop-commuted fields.

The number of lands which were sold on account of default in payment of tax was 248 as compared with 317 sold in 1886. Of these, 51 were bought in for the Crown as compared with 75 similarly bought in during 1886, and none were bought back or redeemed, while 3 were redeemed in 1886. From these figures I can only repeat what I said last year, that the tax is not recoverable without difficulty and some hardship on the smaller and poorer proprietors.

The large proportion of land sold for default, which have had to be bought in for the Crown, is an unsatisfactory feature in the working of the Ordinance, as it must be taken to show that the tax due on such fields has either been over-assessed, and that they are not worth the annual

* See Sessional Paper IX. of 1887, page 8 *et seq.*

payment demanded, or that the proprietors have made a mistake in electing annual instead of crop commutation.

Crop-commuted lands are rarely sold for default, and this fact leads me to suppose that the latter is the more general reason for bought-in lands having been in default, and that they are only those on which in good years the tax registered as payable is very low, while in bad years the owners, not having put by for "a rainy day," are unable to make the payment in cash which their profit of the previous year should have made possible. The revision of the registers in 1889 will remedy such a possibility, for the people are now perfectly aware of the difference between annual and crop commutation, which at the first commutation I hardly think they realised, and blindly elected to make an annual payment at the lower rate in preference to the payment of the higher amount at uncertain intervals.

In the recovery of grain duty (fine grain) 48 lands were sold for default in payment of tax as compared with 37 in 1886. This tax is recoverable without any hardship on the cultivator, the provisions of the Ordinance being as much in his favour as they can be. These sales, therefore, must be attributed not to be undue taxation, but to doubtful title, which in many cases would be set at rest by purchase at a sale held at the instance of the Crown.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The number of Government schools in the District is 19, the number of mission and private schools is 27, and the number of pansala or Buddhist temple schools 138. The teaching is most elementary and almost entirely literary, but I trust some attempt at technical education may soon be made, at least in every Government school. As a beginning, I have now under consideration the establishment of an agricultural and industrial school in the town of Mátara itself; for I am satisfied that it is only by some such encouragement that present industries, which are in danger of dying out, and new trades for which the people are peculiarly fitted, can be profitably developed and caste prejudices against manual labour be destroyed. In villages where Government schools are established, the attendance of children between seven and thirteen years of age is compulsory on four days a week during nine months in the year, parents and guardians being liable to a fine of Rs. 10 for neglect in this respect.

V.—LEGISLATION AND CRIME.

Legislation.—Among the Ordinances passed in the Legislative Council during 1887 there is none of sufficient importance as affecting this District to call for special remark. Nor do I think the District is in need of any special legislation in which the Island generally does not share. It would be unbecoming in me to suggest reform in points other than those in respect of which its necessity has already been brought to notice by statesmen whose experience and ability entitles their opinions to some weight. Briefly, these points are :—

(1) Reform in constitution of the Legislative Council, securing a more representative legislature.
(2) Equalisation in the incidence of taxation.
(3) Regulation of Buddhist temporalities.

In reform in these respects this District is, with the rest of the Island, deeply interested, and it is therefore trusted that in all of them the necessity for early action will be recognised by Government.

I omit in the above list any reference to the laws relating to the sale and distillation of arrack, not because I have ceased to believe a change desirable, but because a Committee of the Council have reported against the adoption of any change at present.

Crime.—The following statement shows the number of criminal cases instituted and convictions obtained before the Supreme, District, and Police Courts during 1887 as compared with 1886 :—

	Number of Cases.		Convictions.	
	1886.	1887.	1886.	1887.
Supreme Court	19 ...	20 ...	7 ...	13
District Court	36 ...	58 ...	26 ...	30
Police Court	1,804 ...	1,510 ...	417 ...	309

These figures indicate an increase in serious crime and a decrease in Police Court offences. The amount recovered on account of fines by the District Court was Rs. 5 for 1887 as compared with Rs. 136 for 1886, and by the Police Court Rs. 620 as compared with Rs. 1,961, showing a total decrease in the amount of fines imposed of Rs. 1,471, the disproportionate decrease being apparently due merely to magisterial idiosyncracy, for on inquiry it cannot be found that any corresponding increase has occurred in the number of committals to prison.

The amount of fines departmentally imposed by the Assistant Government Agent for revenue offences was Rs. 850 in 1887 as compared with Rs. 304 in 1886.

Cattle-stealing is still reported to be very prevalent throughout the District and nowhere to have decreased. 215 cases were instituted during the year as compared with 223 in 1886, and in these 25 convictions were obtained. These figures corroborate the inference to be drawn from the figures relating to fines and convictions, that difficulties in the way of obtaining convictions and leniency in the sentences imposed have discouraged institutions and led to settlement of cases out of court.

It is proposed to pass new Gaṇsabháwa rules with regard to branding cattle, by which it is hoped some further check will be put on the frequency of this offence. I trust that this may be found effective, but from my experience of the unsatisfactory manner in which the present excellent rules are disregarded, I have but faint hope of any new rules meeting with better success.

Deputy Fiscal's Office.—The following figures show the work done as compared with 1886 :—

Writs.	1886.	1887
Recoveries in money	19,445 ...	15,861
Credited to holders of writs	18,276 ...	14,949
Total ...	37,721	30,810

	1886.	1887.
Sales	1,090 ...	795
Claims.		
Allowed	270 ...	125
Disallowed wholly	171 ...	94
Disallowed in part	31 ...	6
Otherwise disposed of	31 ...	40
Service of Process exclusive of Writs.		
Originals	3,647 ...	5,099
Copies received	8,748 ...	8,816
Copies served	7,550 ...	7,744
Dead	36 ...	55
Not served	1,162 ...	1,017
Percentage of non-service	13·70 ...	11·38

These figures show a decrease in work, except as regards service of process, in connection with which, though there has been an increase, the work has been performed more efficiently.

Ten years ago the amounts credited to and recovered under writs amounted to Rs. 117,941, or nearly four times the amount recovered in 1887, and twenty years ago the recoveries were Rs. 58,070, or nearly double the present amount. Decreased litigation is of course the direct cause of this decrease in recoveries under writs, but the indirect causes are not so wholly satisfactory, namely, decreased trade, leading to increased taxation in the shape of the heavier stamp duties levied under the Ordinance No. 43 of 1884.

Jail.—The accommodation provided is for 111 prisoners. The average daily strength during 1887 was 74·33 as compared with 88·69 in 1886.

The number of deaths in jail (excluding one execution) was 6 as compared with 7 in 1886, and the daily average on the sick list was 2·74 as compared with 1·91.

The average space for each prisoner was 780·2 cubic feet.

The hard labour prisoners are employed principally outside the jail in the repair and upkeep of public works, roads, and buildings in the town. I had occasion during the year to alter the system under which marks to be earned towards remission of sentence had previously been allowed, which caused considerable discontent and several complaints. The iniquity of awarding a certain number of remission marks to all prisoners alike, regardless of their conduct at supposed hard labour, was too manifest to need much explanation, and I am glad to say that my decision was upheld, to the great advantage of discipline as well as increased efficiency of prison labour.

The expenditure of the jail was Rs. 7,653·77 during 1887 as compared with Rs. 8,977·41 for 1886.

Gaṇsabháwas.—There are twelve Gaṇsabháwas or village tribunals in the District, presided over by four Presidents, who divide their time each month between each of the three tribunals in their charge. As judicial councils they have all worked very satisfactorily, and as councils for communal good I am glad to be able to report that their position has improved considerably during the year. An interest is now taken in the repair and construction of village works, paths, and buildings, which before was apparently wanting. A liberal vote granted by the District Road Committee for expenditure on Gaṇsabháwa roads and bridges has done much towards this, and has revived an interest in works which for want of funds would otherwise have been neglected.

The state of their funds has during the year been satisfactorily adjusted by a grant made by Government of Rs. 1,320, to meet payment of arrears of salary due to the different establishments. These and all other fixed charges were paid up to the end of the year, and a balance remained to the general credit of the four divisions of Rs. 1,097.

The total number of cases (both criminal and civil) instituted during the year was 8,411. Of these, 6,332 were tried or struck off, 1,981 allowed to be amicably settled and withdrawn, and the remainder were pending on December 31.

Appeal was made to the Assistant Government Agent against the judgments in 453 cases, of which the judgments in 440 were affirmed and only 13 set aside.

Appeal from the Assistant Government Agent's decision was made to His Excellency the Governor and Executive Council in 48 cases, of which 47 were affirmed and 1 set aside.

VI.—PUBLIC WORKS.

Out of the list of works which have from year to year been reported as necessary, and which were again repeated in my report for 1886, the only new work undertaken during 1887 was the commencement of the construction of the Dondra lighthouse. This work, too, is being done at the cost of the Imperial Government, so that the local Government is not thereby relieved of any part of its debt to the District—a debt which has accumulated during a series of years in the annual payment of a large surplus revenue to the General Treasury without any adequate return being made.

Roads.—There are 98 miles of principal road in the District and about 111 miles of minor roads. The cost of upkeep per mile of the former is on an average about Rs. 200 and Rs. 135 on the latter. The difference in expenditure is principally owing to the fact that the former are, as a rule, metalled roads, while the latter are principally gravelled; the traffic on the latter being lighter, they are more easily kept in order, and are by far the pleasanter for travelling. Our principal roads have been in very fair order during the year, while our minor roads have been excellent.

Proposed Works.—As none of the works previously recommended have yet been undertaken, I can only again repeat them. The importance of some of these has been long since recognised, and it is now hoped that repeated promises of early attention to be paid to them will soon be fulfilled. The works referred to are :—

(1) Extension of the Morowak kóralé road.
(2) Extension of the telegraph to Mátara.
(3) Improvement of the Baṇḍattara bridge on the Hakmana road.
(4) An iron bridge at Polwatta on the Galle-Mátara road between the 91st and 92nd milepost.
(5) An iron bridge in Kaḍéwidiya, or bazaar of Mátara town, 99th milepost.

(6) A wall or iron railing round the new Police Court. The present fence sticks are unsightly, and though they would not discredit a potato plot, are hardly a suitable surrounding for a Court.

VII.—LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT.

District Road Committee.—A separate report on the working of this Committee will be found elsewhere in the volume. It is unnecessary, therefore, for me to do more here than to give the figures representing the revenue and expenditure of the Committee during 1886 and 1887, which, were as follows :—1886, revenue Rs. 44,669, expenditure Rs. 40,074; 1887, revenue Rs. 50,729, expenditure Rs. 43,553. A reference to the report above alluded to will show the working of the Committee to be in an equally satisfactory state.

Local Board.—The remarks made above with regard to the District Road Committee apply also to the Local Board. A report on its working during the year will be found elsewhere. The following figures show its revenue and expenditure during the year as compared with 1886 :—1886, revenue Rs. 4,284, expenditure Rs. 5,058 ; 1887, revenue Rs. 4,933, expenditure Rs. 5,011.

Balances brought forward from previous years not included in the revenue as above given enabled the Board, though apparently over-expending its income, to avoid debt. Changes in the staff and more careful attention to the Board's interests will, it is anticipated, increase next year's income by Rs. 1,000. The proportion which the cost of the establishment bears to the revenue was reduced to 31 per cent. as compared with 38 per cent. for 1886.

An Ordinance passed during the year extending to Local Boards the powers of District Road Committees under the new Road Ordinance will, in facilitating the recovery of road tax, also considerably augment the receipts under that head. This alteration in the law was most necessary, as considerable difficulty as well as loss had been experienced by the Board in attempting to enforce by-laws which were capable of various interpretations, and were temporarily enforced or declared *ultra vires* according to the different views taken by different judicial authorities. Objections are now set at rest, and the necessity for by-laws on the subject has, I am thankful to say, been superseded by the Ordinance.

The Irrigation Committee is constituted under Ordinance No. 21 of 1867 to promote the maintenance and extension of paddy cultivation in the District. It is composed of eight members, namely, the Government Agent, Assistant Government Agent, and the six kóralé or pattu Mudaliyárs of the District, who were elected at meetings of proprietors held in 1868.

The revenue of the committee consists of the share of the produce of all paddy lands, called "huwandiram," which, under the rules drawn up by the committee, is recoverable to meet payments to irrigation headmen for their services and for the repair and upkeep of small irrigation works. The share of the produce payable for these purposes has been fixed at 1-48th, and it is generally recovered in kind, the collection of the tax due for each harvest being rented out or sold by pattus and kóralés to the highest bidder at a public sale.

Of the amount so recovered five-sixths are paid to the irrigation headmen for their services and the remaining one-sixth is retained by the committee as a fund from which to meet payments, as above stated, required for the repair and upkeep of minor irrigation works.

The revenue of the committee during 1887 was Rs. 7,459 as compared with Rs. 8,064 for 1886, and its expenditure Rs. 7,917 as compared with Rs. 7,240.

Irregularities in the management and disposal of the fund were brought to light towards the end of 1886, by which it was discovered that by the headmen's pay having been allowed to fall into arrear, and by over-payments from the committee's fund, the committee were considerably in debt. The most rigid economy has therefore had to be practiced during the year, and I am still pressing for a reduction in charges on the committee's funds which appear to me cannot, under the circumstances, be legitimately continued.

VIII.—SANITATION.

The general health of the District has continued to be satisfactory. Smallpox was imported into the Weligam kóralé from the Galle District, but by careful isolation of infected patients it was not allowed to assume an epidemic form. Sporadic cases occurred here and there throughout the District, with similar results. There was slightly more chickenpox than usual, but a marked diminution in the number of cases of fever and dysentery.

The death-rate per mille during 1887 was 19·1 as compared with 22·2 for 1886, while the birth-rate was 33·7 as compared with 23. Normal seasons, average rainfall, and consequently satisfactory food supply, all contributed to maintain a satisfactory state of public health, while the Government hospitals and dispensaries continued to improve in doing real good.

Gradually, though slowly, medical science as opposed to superstition is making its way felt among the people. Indeed, so far have devil-dancing, charms, and other rites for exorcising the evil spirits supposed to affect the sick been allowed to fall into disuse, that a suggestion has recently been made to revive "aṅkeliya" and "polkeliya" as Siṅhalese national games, entirely losing sight of their original significance as superstitious rites.

At present there is the civil hospital in Mátara and an outdoor dispensary at Weligama, eleven miles from Mátara, and one at Viharéhena on the limits of the Morowak kóralé, forty-seven miles from Mátara. There is thus a very large area to which opportunities to benefit by European treatment have not yet been extended. There is no dispensary between Mátara and Taṅgalla, a distance of twenty-three miles, though the villages inland from Dikwella form almost the worst paraṅgi centre in the District. I would therefore strongly recommend the establishment of an outdoor dispensary at Dikwella. It might as an experiment be opened at first two days a week, and the dispensers from Mátara and Taṅgalla be detached for duty there on alternate days or weeks.

IX.—MEMORABLE EVENTS.

Of the memorable events which have marked the history of the year, first of course must be placed the celebration of the Queen's jubilee. It is impossible here to describe the enthusiastic demonstration of affection and loyalty which every class and race of Her Majesty's subjects throughout the District exhibited on this occasion. The festival was celebrated at thirteen different towns

and villages in the District, and thus the largest possible number of people were enabled to take part in it. In addition to the celebration throughout the District, three days' festivities were held in the town of Mátara, an abridged account of which (taken from the report furnished for Sessional Paper No. XIV.) is as follows :—

Thanksgiving services were held in the different churches at 9.30 A.M. on June 28. At 10.30 there was a fête on the river, consisting of boats bearing a huge Buddha, puppet shows, acrobats, &c., which caused much amusement to the onlookers. At 12 o'clock the poor were abundantly fed. At 4 o'clock the processions of the various communities assembled at the kachchéri, whence, uniting in one brilliant and picturesque train, they started for the pavilion on the Fort esplanade. Here the Assistant Government Agent read the "Record," which was followed by the recitation of native stanzas in honour of Her Majesty. Three volleys were then fired, the Union Jack was hoisted, and the assembled multitude united in singing the National Anthem. Rain somewhat interfered with the afternoon's programme ; but the illumination and bonfires in the evening were most successful. The same evening the Kaḍévidiya theatre was opened with a Sinhalese play. On the 29th Mrs. Baumgartner planted a memorial tree at 8 A.M., and at 2 o'clock the Agri-Horticultural Exhibition was open. Here a luncheon was given, at which the Government Agent, in a review of the past twenty years of the Mátara District, drew attention to the great benefits which had accrued from irrigation works and the opening up of the District by roads. In the evening a concert was given, followed by an amusing farce. Later on there was a display of fireworks. On the 30th the prizes were distributed to the successful exhibitors ; in the afternoon there was a Gymkhana ; and in the evening a repetition of the amateur theatricals and fireworks.

3,371 of the women and girls of the District contributed over £80, principally made up of penny subscriptions, towards the jubilee offering to the Queen from the women of Ceylon in token of their loyalty, affection, and reverence.

Members of every community vied with each other in loyalty and liberality in their efforts to worthily commemorate the event. The most marked and immediate result was the success of the Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition, which thus initiated will, it is hoped, be now held annually for the development of trade, the encouragement of both old and new industries, the extension of agricultural enterprise, and the general progress and prosperity of the people.

The year has also been marked by a distinct development of public spirit, as evinced by the public meetings held in support of an object for the direct public good—namely, Railway Extension to Mátara. I have not included this in the list of works given above as being most required in the District, as its necessity is self-evident from the agricultural, trade, and population returns for the District. It has also been admitted that the expenditure, even with regard to purely financial interests, would be a remunerative investment ; and it was with the knowledge of these facts that the leading men of Mátara were unanimous in the support they gave to a memorial to the Legislative Council, earnestly praying that so remunerative an enterprise might be undertaken.

Last year I alluded to the recognition of the necessity for conceding to natives of birth and education a more responsible share of self-government. This recognition has been gradually growing, and has found public expression on several occasions during the year. It is not from selfish motives that we retain the Government of Ceylon. It is to give the people of the country, peace, order, progress, and prosperity ; and in proportion as they can provide themselves with these blessings without our assistance, so much of our work is done and so much of our machinery for supplying them can be withdrawn. It will not, I think, be denied that education, civilisation, and enlightenment have made rapid strides among the people of the country during the last twenty years, and yet no corresponding increase in the share of self-government has been accorded them.

A gradual concession of power in this respect, and a persistent performance of our recognised duty in the construction, restoration, and maintenance of irrigation works, mark a wise and far-seeing policy which was followed, though not inaugurated, in the Jubilee Year 1887.

X.—GENERAL SUMMARY.

Work.—With the gradual development of the District the work of the office has gradually increased, but is still of a most interesting character.

His Excellency's remarks in his historical speech at the Jubilee Banquet held at Mount Lavinia on July 4, with regard to the overworked and underpaid members of the Public Service, apply with great force to this office, and with him I frequently have occasion to wish there were thirty-six hours in a day instead of twenty-four, in order that the work might be given that fuller attention which its satisfactory performance requires.

I annex extracts from my diary showing the variety of an Assistant Agent's duties, and that there is almost no grievance, however large or small, public or private, in which simple folk do not apply to him for redress, and how he is therefore literally expected to be "the father of his people,"—a part which requires the utmost tact as well as sympathy to satisfactorily sustain.

Administrative Measures and Plans.—My chief hopes for the improvement of the District remain much the same as I expressed last year, namely, its development for native benefit. This I believe can best be attained by the spread of education, more especially agricultural and technical, by irrigation, and by railway extension ; and it is by these means, apart from the example set them by European enterprise and industry, that native energy will be increased, their agricultural and industrial enterprise be encouraged, and new occupations be found for them. Without undue presumption, I think we may take credit from the figures I have been able to adduce in my remarks under the head "Food Supply" for a certain measure of success, however small it may be, in the direction of development in the rich agricultural resources of the District during the year under review. If this is so, and a beginning has been made, the Jubilee Year will indeed be a most memorable one in the annals of the District.

H. P. BAUMGARTNER,
Acting Assistant Government Agent.

April, 1888.

Extracts from Diary.

January 11.—Examined candidates for the resthouse-keepership of Morowaka. This consists principally in a scrutiny of their personal appearance and inspection of their certificates of character. Only three candidates present. They all speak English fairly well, which is considered a requisite for so frequented a resthouse as Morowaka. They also all claim, with apparent right, the usual qualities of honesty and sobriety and experience

in the duties required of them. Each, however, has a special qualification giving him a superior claim to that of any one else. No. 1 has been resthouse-keeper for two years, No. 2 has just returned from the Colonial Exhibition, where he has been on show, and No. 3 produces the photograph of a former Private Secretary. I discard all claims and recommend for appointment a kachchéri peon who has been employed as Assistant Agent's travelling peon, and whom I know to be a fair cook and good servant.

May 1.—Sent off by morning coach to Buona Vista Orphanage a small girl three years old, a waif, abandoned some two or three months ago at the hospital by an unknown mother. The objects of the Buona Vista institution were not known to me, and I had applied to the Bishop for assistance in obtaining a home for the child. He at once referred me to Buona Vista, from whose Principal I received a reply to my application, which resulted in her charitable admission to that excellent institution for the maintenance and education of destitute orphan girls. She left here friendless, homeless, and even nameless, to receive there a kind welcome in a home amidst many future friends. The unassuming and ready charity with which this child was received, and her entire future support undertaken without any question or promise of contribution towards it, show that it is only necessary to be friendless and destitute to receive a welcome there.

March 5.—At the payment of schoolmasters' salaries for last month, owing to a mistake in the account made by the clerk taking their signatures to the abstract, it appeared that an overpayment of Rs. 5 had been made. One of the schoolmasters, who had been paid in silver, on producing the amount supposed to have been paid him, produced a five-rupee note, and was therefore suspected of having taken the money or accepted the overpayment. Upon this he fainted, falling down and breaking his comb. He was taken into the open air, and on coming to protested his innocence, and asked that a careful examination of the accounts should be made. On examination it was found the clerk had made a mistake in his figures and there had been no overpayment, and that therefore the "faint" had been one of injured innocence and not of conscious guilt, and the schoolmaster's character was entirely cleared, except in so far as his having fainted might affect it. He then applied to me for compensation, more particularly for the broken comb. I cannot, however, do more than inform him that I much regret the occurrence, that I will require the clerk to apologise for having been unintentionally the cause of it, but that I am unable to order him pecuniary compensation on account of his comb, the damage done to it being entirely due to his having fainted, which was uncalled for.

June 1.—The Bishop returned to Mátara from Taggalla. Went with him to prize-giving at Miss Callender's "High Class Girls' School," where the prizes were distributed by Mrs. Copleston. Though Miss Callender's efforts to provide a better education for the upper classes of natives are thoroughly appreciated, it seems she does not get that support which so excellent an institution deserves. I am a great believer in the influence of women, and think that this influence has hitherto been too much neglected. Nothing but education beginning with the higher classes can improve the condition of the mere animal life now lived by some of the low-caste natives in the District. They marry and intermarry regardless of any ties of relationship, and it is not to be wondered at that the number of idiots and imbeciles is out of proportion to our population.

June 21.—Police officer and vel-vidáné of Kekanadura brought up and warned to be more careful in reporting encroachments on Crown lands and illicit chena cultivations. Both these headmen have failed to report cases of this nature, and have left it to be brought to light by petitions, &c. The police officer is dirty and disreputable in appearance, and is for the second time warned that any further complaints against him will be followed by dismissal.

Candidates for the police officership of Apperakka attended.

June 22.—Land sale; twenty-four lots in Weligam kóralé. Police officer of Kaḍéwidiya brought up to explain complaint against him by the Colonial Surgeon with regard to the supply of subjects for vaccination. Warned.

June 23.—Inspect Local Board markets, lamp-posts, &c., which have been cleaned up and painted in preparation for the jubilee celebration.

June 24.—Held inquiry into land claims in connection with charge of timber-felling.

June 27.—Inspected paupers with a view to report as required on the number of incurables who might apply for admission to the "Jubilee Home for Incurables."

June 29.—The Government Agent arrived from Galle, having kindly consented to read an address at the Agri-Horticultural Exhibition which was opened to-day. The Exhibition was a success, considering the novelty of the thing in the District. The villagers could not be dissuaded from the belief that only curiosities were to be exhibited. It was under this impression that a man with a beard to his feet, an albino child, and a sexless bullock, were all entered for exhibition. A hen with spurs and a cock with ten claws were also included among the poultry. This idea, I am afraid, prevented the best of a good many classes of exhibit being sent to the show. If, however, we are enabled to have a show next year, the people will know better, and we shall, I have no doubt, have a really good exhibition.

September 22.—Accompanied the Surveyor-General. Drive to Akuressa for breakfast. Hold election of irrigation headmen. Complaints are made of damage done by a small herd of elephants last night in a village four miles distant. The man in whose garden most damage was done says he saw seven full-grown elephants and two small ones. They rooted up his plantains and arecanut trees. I am not quite certain about the law on the point; but inform him I will give him a license to shoot them in his garden if the headmen report his statement to be correct. I know they may be shot when trespassing on irrigated lands, and presume that gardens may also be protected.

October 4.—A boy of seventeen complains to me that the Registrar will not receive his notice of marriage (for the issue of a certificate) as he is under age. The proposed bride is twelve years old. The marriage would be valid, as they are both over the required ages (sixteen for the male and ten for the female). He says his father and mother are dead, and he has no guardian—so that unless the Registrar, in his discretion, constitutes himself his guardian, he cannot refuse to issue the required certificate. He says he has no property, and lives on daily wages only, and wants some one to look after him and "cook his meals." On my inquiring whether the twelve-year old *fiancée* is competent to undertake such charge, he is confident she is. It is true the husband's wants are apparently few (and she won't have many buttons to sew on!), but their future, with the probability of a nursery of little underfed and undergrown results, is terrible to contemplate.

REPORT ON THE HAMBANTOṬA DISTRICT FOR 1887.

I RESUMED duties at Hambantoṭa early in January, 1888, after an absence of eight months at Trincomalee, where I had been acting as Assistant Government Agent. My report for 1887 is therefore confined to what came under my observation during the first two months of 1888.

The revenue shows a falling off of Rs. 15,855·43 as compared with 1886, and is due principally to the less quantity of salt sold and also to the smaller collection of grain tax. The sale of salt depends on the demand in other Districts, and its decrease cannot be accounted for here.

The falling off in the *Grain Tax* is due almost entirely to the smaller collection of duty on dry grain, not because the chena crops have been a failure, but owing to the insufficient checks the Grain Ordinance lays down for assessing the Government share. I would strongly recommend the reversion to the old system of renting, as being the safest means of protecting Government against fraud. The other sources of revenue are much the same as last year.

The expenditure shows an increase of Rs. 13,122·45 over that of 1886. The causes which led to this increase are mainly attributable to the heavy expenditure required in a larger collection of salt. The stock collected in 1886 was very small owing to unfavourable weather, but this deficiency was more than made up the following year.

Prison Services show a saving of Rs. 2,158·43 owing to a less number of prisoners being confined in the Tangalla and Hambantoṭa jails.

IRRIGATION.

The various irrigation works in process of construction made considerable progress last year notwithstanding the exceptionally wet weather in the north-east monsoon.

The first in importance is the Walawé scheme, of which the District Engineer in charge gives a full account in the following report :—

The DISTRICT ENGINEER, Hambantoṭa, to the ASSISTANT GOVERNMENT AGENT, Hambantoṭa.

No. 108. Hambantoṭa, March 29, 1888.

SIR,—IN compliance with your request I beg to enclose the following description of the Walawé river irrigation scheme and report of the progress in 1887. I have divided the report under the following heads :—

(1) Works already sanctioned—description of progress and probable completion.
(2) Works still necessary to complete the scheme—(*a*) Headworks on left bank, (*b*) Channels on ditto, (*c*) Reasons and estimates.
(3) Probable total results and expenditure.
(4) Comparison with other works in the Southern Province.

1. Works already sanctioned and now in progress. The first important work is the anicut across the Walawé-gaṇga, which will raise the ordinary level of water in the river from about 100 ft. above datum to 111—that is, 11 ft. This work consists of a strong masonry and concrete wall founded on the solid rock bottom varied from the bed of the river to 18 ft. below the bed, and is carried up solid to a cill level of 105 ft. above datum. The foundations in their deepest parts go to a depth of 78 ft. above datum, or 27 ft. below cill level. This solid wall is pierced in four places by openings 3 ft. wide, through which any silt that collects above the anicut, and threatens to silt up the channels, will be scoured away. These sluices will be closed by planks sliding in grooves. Above the cill are nine openings, 15 ft. wide, separated by piers 7 ft. 6 in. thick. The piers will be carried to a height of 111 above datum, and the openings closed by planks to the same level, which will be the height to which the water will be raised ; and over these planks and piers the surplus water of the river will spill after supplying the channels. The total length of the anicut between the abutments is 240 ft.

The number of cubes of masonry and concrete built in it during the year 1886 was 220 cubes, in 1887 598 cubes. I enclose a tracing of the anicut showing the work done in 1886 coloured brown and that done in 1887 coloured red.

Had it not been for the unexpected depth to which the foundations had to be carried, and the comparatively tedious nature of work carried on below the bed of the river, needing incessant baling and subjecting the work to frequent and serious interruptions, the anicut would have been finished in 1887 instead of, as I now anticipate, in 1888.

On the right bank of the river above the anicut the channels will be cut, and headworks are in course of construction. The channels are divided into three sections. The first section is eight miles long with a bottom width of 6 ft. from Lyangaha-ęla to Mamadola. At Mamadola water will be distributed to Mamadola plain and lands adjoining and below it. The second section, from Mamadola to the turn off the Kachchigal valley, is four miles long and 4 ft. wide at the bed. The third section (taking water into the Kachchigal valley having an irrigable area of 4,047 acres and an asweddumised area of about 1,400 acres) is six miles long with a bed width of 3 ft. The fourth section (supplying the Tawalwilla and Węlipatamwilé fields) is one and a half mile long and 2 ft. wide at the bed.

The heaviest cutting is in the first, second, thirteenth, and sixteenth miles ; the quantities of excavation in each mile being, respectively, 9,505, 11,255, 10,240, and 8,345 cubes. The work done is confined as yet to the first section. In 1886 1,700 cubes were excavated from the first mile, 2,389 cubes from the second, 593 from the third, and 237 from the fifth. In 1887 the amount of excavation was 1,443 cubes for the first mile, 2,854 cubes for the second, and 1,773 cubes for the third. The fourth and fifth miles require very little to render them serviceable, as the bed of the old Ṭóda-ęla has been cleared and levelled, and will again carry water to the fields below as it did hundreds of years ago.

Probable completion.—The masonry work of the anicut will, I hope, be completed in the course of the next three months, and the head sluice should also then be approaching completion. There will be some small works necessary at the various stream crossings, but a small gang of masons will be able to complete these as fast as the channel works can be pushed on. After this very little skilled labour will be required. The distributing gates, both as to number, position, and size, will depend upon the contours that are now being made of the Walawé valley proper.

If the Siphalese turn out in large numbers as they did during the last months of 1886, I see no reason why water should not reach at least half of the Kachchigal valley, comprising about 2,000 acres, and the whole of the Walawé valley proper, containing about 6,000 acres, by the end of the present year or the spring of 1889

2. Works still necessary to complete the scheme. The headworks sanctioned comprise only those required for the right bank of the river, and will probably provide for the irrigation of about 10,000 acres. It is essential, in order to reap the full advantage of the anicut, that the headworks should be built on the left bank also, and channels must be constructed on that bank. The land on the left bank is much more favourable for channel irrigation than that on the right bank, being more level and less cut up by ridges. A channel of about five miles in length along the course of an old Yóda-ela existing on that side, originally fed from the ancient tank of Pandikulam, could, if the bed were lowered so as to pass 2 ft. depth of water, be made to irrigate about 1,080 acres of asweddumised land on that bank (at a cost of Rs. 24,000); that, except a portion of the mouth of the river, is but rarely cultivated and only then at great risk and by considerable labour. This I have in previous correspondence called the first instalment of the Mágam pattu channel. This channel in continuation is now traced for twenty-four miles till it reached the village of Beragama, and I hope this year to complete the trace at least so far as to bring water to Hambantoṭa. Only one ridge of any size will have to be cut to effect this. If this channel were constructed it would complete the scheme and irrigate 15,000 acres lying in the Mágam pattu. The cost would probably be between Rs. 150,000 and Rs. 200,000. I do not think it would exceed the latter figure.

3. Probable total results and expenditure. The works now sanctioned will cost approximately Rs. 240,000, and possibly another Rs. 20,000 may be required for the distributing channels; say, a total of Rs. 260,000. These works will irrigate 10,000 acres (possibly more) at a net cost of Rs. 26 per acre. This is taking advantage of but half the utility of the anicut and irrigating one bank only.

If the works on the left bank are taken in hand, and my estimate of Rs. 200,000 and 15,000 acres is realised, the result will be a total expenditure on both banks of Rs. 460,000 for an acreage irrigated of 25,000 acres at a cost of Rs. 18·40 per acre. The land benefited is mostly Crown land, at present bringing nothing into the treasury and giving but a few uncertain chena crops to the villagers. When water is brought to it it will raise the value from (say) Rs. 10 per acre to Rs. 100, and the value of the 25,000 acres will be raised from Rs. 250,000 to Rs. 2,500,000. Whether the land belongs to Government or to private individuals, such a scheme is surely a magnificent one.

4. Comparison with other works in the Southern Province. In comparing the Walawé river scheme with other irrigation works in the Southern Province, it should be borne in mind that in the majority of instances the benefit has not been so much from new land irrigated, as from regularity secured in successive crops; whereas the Walawé scheme will not only secure the regular succession of both maha and yala each year, but will also do this for land that has never before been cultivated; the asweddumised land bearing but a small proportion to the irrigable; bearing this in mind and neglecting altogether the fact that in all probability the sale of land will shortly repay the outlay. I append a table showing the comparative expenditure and cost per acre irrigated of the various large works in the Southern Province:—

	Cost.		Irrigate Acres.	Cost per Acre.	
	Rs.	c.		Rs.	c.
1. Denegama and Weangwęwa ...	121,699	0	782	159	84
2. Kokonadura	68,152	0	1,031	66	10
3. Gaṇgaboḍa pattu scheme, including Hali-ela Elawella ...	362,289	0	4,120	87	93
4. Uḍukiriwila, including Urubokka...	190,627	0	3,164	60	25
5. Tissamaharáma, including Elagalla anicut, which is but half utilised...	198,646	0	800	248	25
Estimate.					
6. Walawé-gaṇga, including anicut half utilised	260,000	0	10,000	26	0
6*a*. Walawé-ganga, completed ...	460	0	25,000	18	40

These figures will, I think, speak for themselves.

I am, &c.,

H. WARD,
District Engineer.

The difficulties of building a solid masonry anicut across a broad river liable to frequent and heavy floods can only be realised by those who have watched the progress of the work throughout.

It is not unreasonable to expect that before the close of the year water will be available for irrigation from these works to irrigate existing fields, as well as to bring under cultivation large tracts of chena land which accurate surveys enable us now to know can be brought under the plough.

I invite special attention to the promising scheme for opening up the Mágam pattu side of the Walawé river, and which, Mr. Ward says, is capable of being accomplished at a very small cost. The same anicut will serve this purpose, and the old channel, which is still in a fair state of preservation, only wants a little repairing to make it serviceable. A survey of it was commenced the year before last, but not completed for want of funds. The Provincial Irrigation Board has been asked to allow a small sum to finish it this year.

It is high time that all the Crown lands under the Walawé scheme, both in the Walawé and Kachchigal-áru valleys in east Giruwá pattu, be surveyed in small lots for sale. Already applications have been made, and information asked for, by intending purchasers as to when the lands will be put up for sale.

Works in West Giruwá Pattu.

In West Giruwá pattu the progress in repair and construction of irrigation works has been satisfactory, but I regret to report the breaching of five of the small tanks which were sluiced last year by the exceptionally heavy rains in December. They are all situated one above the other in the Netulpiṭiya valley, and when the one highest up the valley gave way those below were bound to go. So great was the volume of water that it made a clean sweep, three feet deep, over the 300 yards of main road across the Netulpiṭiya fields. In the largest of these tanks one masonry sluice was completely scoured out, the large blocks of stone being found scattered about 20 yards below. The other four tanks suffered only in the breaching of the bunds, which are being now repaired by village labour, with some alteration in the spills to allow of the escape of the highest flood water.

Channels.

The cutting of a channel from the Ęṭpitiya anicut was commenced in February, and has just been completed. It will irrigate about 200 acres round Walasmulla as well as supplement the water supply down the Koholane valley, by which a further extent of about 150 acres is irrigated.

The new channel from Uḍukiriwila to the tanks in the Netulpiṭiya valley has made fair progress. The object for which this is being cut was fully explained in my report for last year. Already a distance of about half a mile has been excavated, and if sufficient funds are forthcoming the work ought to be completed in 1888.

Tissamaharáma.

The severe drought of last year, which was felt almost all over Ceylon, caused the Mágama river to dry up, and the Tissa tank, from which it is fed, had only its own store supply to keep alive an extent of about 800 acres of paddy for a couple of months. This quantity was found to be inadequate, and the result was that a few fields had to be abandoned while in others the crop was light. It is seldom the river dries up altogether, but the evil effects of a drought, though occurring at long intervals, can be counteracted by the restoration of some of the numerous old store tanks in the neighbourhood; and the ancients who first designed the system of irrigation there were not slow to discover that it was only by a network of such tanks a large area of land could be kept under regular cultivation. When the river failed, the tanks contained a reserve stock of water to fall back on. We cannot do better than follow in their footsteps, and with this object in view I have started a scheme of restoring one by one all the tanks around Tissa at a very small cost, and in a manner which I shall proceed to describe. The District Engineer caused an examination to be made of the land round Tissa, with the result that a number of abandoned tanks were discovered in close proximity to the main one. A group of five of them were roughly repaired, and now contain enough water to serve over 500 acres in the event of another drought. They will also irrigate high land which the Tissa tank on a lower level could not touch.

A gang of thirty prisoners are at present employed in restoring these tanks thoroughly and completing what was first begun by the tank coolies.

A simple and inexpensive wooden sluice will be fixed in the bunds, and thus we have tanks restored to working order at an actual expenditure of probably not more than Rs. 50 each.

As pointed out in my last report, a number of old tanks lie on the western bank of the Mágama river which could be restored at a very small cost. Channels running into them from the river have been seen, and one is believed to branch off above the Ellegala anicut to feed Wirawila; but nothing can be attempted in the way of restoration till a thorough examination is made by means of proper surveys and levels. An accurate knowledge of the immediate neighbourhood of an important irrigation work is most essential for its proper development and for the prevention of blunders which it is sometimes found necessary to rectify after the useless expenditure of much money.

Before closing the subject of irrigation, mention must be made of a new sluice invented by the District Engineer for small tanks with from 6 ft. to 8 ft. head of water. It consists of a wooden pipe with an upright funnel fixed in the centre, through which the rod from the valve passes. A round ball slips into a circular hole or door, and is let down or withdrawn by means of the connecting rod as water is let out or shut off.

An experiment was tried with one at Sittrawila, and found to answer very well. For the purpose of still further testing it, the sluice was taken out a few days after and fitted into the bund of one of the new tanks at Tissa, with 4 ft. head of water. The result was as satisfactory as at the first experiment. Its chief recommendation is its cheapness. Any village carpenter could make one for about Rs. 60, whereas a masonry sluice for the smallest tank costs over Rs. 700. It can also be shifted about without any difficulty when it is found that a different position in the bund would irrigate a larger extent of land. With a masonry sluice the whole structure would have to be pulled down and a new sluice built.

Annexed is a description of the sluice furnished by Mr. Ward :—

The DISTRICT ENGINEER, Hambantoṭa, to the ASSISTANT GOVERNMENT AGENT, Hambantoṭa.

No. 134. Hambantoṭa, April 18, 1888.

SIR,—In compliance with your request I beg to enclose a tracing of my wooden sluice for village tanks.

The sluice consists of a horizontal wooden box about a foot square, running through the bund just above the level of the bed of the tank, one end open to the tank and the other to the field. In the centre of this is erected a similar vertical box, which reaches from the bottom of the horizontal one to the top of the bund, and which divides the horizontal one by two partitions. In the partition next the field a circular hole is cut, 6 in. in diameter, forming the outlet of the sluice. This hole is opened and closed by a wooden ball 8 in. in diameter; the ball is provided with an iron axle, and the ends of the axle work in slots cut half through the side planks of the vertical box, guiding the ball; the ball is raised (and the sluice opened) by an iron rod attached to the axle and reaching to the top of the vertical box. The partition next the tank has an opening 8 in. by 6 in. cut in it, which is always open. The vertical box is closed at the top by a plank through which the rod working the sluice passes. The boxes are clamped together by wooden clumps fastened with wooden wedges. The action of the sluice is simple. When it is closed, the water in the vertical box being in free communication with the water in the tank, rises to the same level, and the pressure due to this head keeps the ball in its place. When the rod is pulled up the ball is raised and the aperture is opened, and the water falls in the centre of the box and rushes through it; as soon as the handle is let go, the ball itself resumes its position, closing the sluice.

The cost of such a sluice, constructed of good hard wood planks 2 in. thick and 12 in. wide, will not exceed Rs. 40 to 45.

It can be transported in a bullock cart and put in any village tank bund by the villagers themselves without the employment of skilled labour (beyond perhaps a carpenter) in two or three days.

I estimate the life of such a sluice of sound timber to be not less than ten or fifteen years.

I am, &c.,
H. WARD,
District Engineer.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The list of public works to be carried out are almost all embodied in my article on irrigation. They are :—

(1) Completion of the Walawé-gaṇga scheme.
(2) Surveys and scientific examination of the country in the Mágam pattu for the same scheme.
(3) Completion of the Uḍukiriwila and Netulpiṭiya channel.

(4) Restoration of old store tanks round Tissa.
(5) Survey of the western bank of the Mágama river and examination of old channels leading thereon.
(6) Cutting of channel from the Walawé-gaṇga to Hambantoṭa.

The other works are :—Metalling of the principal roads ; construction of telegraph wire from Galle to Hambantoṭa ; opening of dispensary at Wirakeṭiya ; the construction of a minor road from Beliatta to Getamana, a distance of six miles (commenced last month) ; a new minor road from Marakeliya through Patiyapalle to Taluna.

FOOD SUPPLY.

The headmen's returns give the following yield of paddy and kurakkan, the chief articles of diet for the whole District :—Paddy 161,388 bushels and kurakkan 59,479 bushels to a population of 76,930. The average price of paddy was Re. 1 per bushel and kurakkan 75c.

There are, besides, large quantities of Indian corn, pumpkins, cucumbers, &c., grown in the chenas, of which a correct estimate cannot be given.

The District may be said to grow more than enough for its own consumption, as large quantities of chena produce, especially the different varieties of fine grain, are carted away to Galle and Mátara.

The rice imported at Hambantoṭa is sent up to the Badulla District principally.

Fish also forms an important article of food, and large quantities are carried inland in Giruwá pattu west.

LEGISLATION.

Some alteration in the Grain Tax Ordinance to ensure the proper recovery of dry grain duty is necessary. The assessment of the share due to Government is left too much to headmen without sufficient means of checking the accuracy of their work. Under the old renting system the sale of the rents by public auction was a safe check against under-assessment. Intending purchasers generally examined the crops beforehand, and competition enabled Government to secure the full value of its share of the crops.

The Game Laws ought to be more stringent. The possession of deer, elk, or wild buffalo skins without a report from a headman ought to be made punishable. I have seen large quantities of deer hides in the close season pass through the bazaar here, which were said to have been procured from villagers in the Badulla District, but which there was good reason to suspect belonged to animals slaughtered in this District.

A new code of both irrigation and village tribunal rules is much needed, and will, it is hoped, be framed this year. The former irrigation rules have been found unsuited to the growing wants of the District, and will have to be altered and added to. A set of village tribunal rules will have to be passed with the introduction of the Gaṇsabháwa this year.

SANITATION.

There was a general outbreak among the inland villagers of Giruwá pattu west in December of a bad form of fever, which increased in virulence in January and February following. At Wirakeṭiya the public market and the boutiques round it were deserted for a month owing to the number of persons attacked. Many of the weak and aged succumbed. Application was at once made to Government for medical assistance, and trained dispensers with large stocks of medicines were sent all over the District.

The Assistant Colonial Surgeon at Taṇgalla also travelled through the District treating all the worst cases.

The fever has disappeared now, and the health of the District may be considered normal.

The towns of Hambantoṭa and Taṇgalla have each their Government hospitals in charge of experienced surgeons, who attend to all cases brought in for treatment. Medicines are also distributed to outdoor patients. Outdoor dispensaries in charge of qualified dispensers have been established at Ambalantoṭa and Tissamaharáma, for which the inhabitants of those two places are very grateful to Government.

The populous inland villages of Giruwá pattu west are much in need of a dispensary in some central spot, and I should recommend that one be established at Wirakeṭiya, where the fever was so bad. At present Taṇgalla, which is from fifteen to twenty miles off, is the nearest place where medical aid can be procured.

THE WORKING OF THE GRAIN TAX ORDINANCE.

Not much difficulty has been experienced in the recovery of the paddy tax. Fields taxed for annual commutation are regularly cultivated, often twice a year, with an improved irrigation system.

Those taxed for crop commutation are fairly dealt with when an application for exemption is made for failure of crop.

Annexed is a table showing the number of sales of defaulters' lands :—

Number of lands sold for default of payment	78
Number bought in by Crown	46
Number redeemed by owners	9
Purchased by outsiders	32

CRIME.

The state of crime in the District calls for no particular notice. In Giruwá pattu west the Siṇhalese new year was marked by the occurrence of the usual cases of assault, some of them of rather a serious nature. In one row which took place in a village thirteen persons were wounded, one of them dying from the severity of his wounds. His assailants were tried at the Supreme Court and sentenced to eight years' rigorous imprisonment. Cattle-stealing is reported to be not so prevalent now, many of the so-called cases of cattle-stealing being nothing more or less than a dispute as to the ownership of the animal.

FISH-CURING YARDS.

The work done this season, which has not been satisfactory, is shown in the annexed statement :—

Comparative Statement of Fish-curing Operations in the Hambantota Fish-curing Yard for the Season ended April 15, 1888.

	Period.	Number of Applications.	Description of Fish.							Salt issued.	Rate per Cwt.	Receipts.	Fish removed.
			Tóru.	Paravu.	Lawayo.	Kelawallo.	Kalamiyo.	Other kinds.	Total.				
			cwt. lb	cwt. lb	cwt. lb	cwt. lb	cwt. lb	cwt. lb	cwt. lb	cwt. lb	c.	Rs. c.	cwt. lb
For this season	From Nov. 18, 1887, to April 15, 1888.	472	77 108	47 88	85 100	—	305 23	118 50	635 33	159 42	80	127 50	523 109
For the previous season	From Oct. 15, 1886, to Mar 31, 1887.	855	38 45	183 59	96 100	1 73	—	1010 96	1331 37	300 84	80	240 60	1045 53
Increase ...	—	—	39 63	—	—	—	305 23	—	344 86	—	—	—	—
Decrease ...	—	383	—	135 83	11 0	1 73	—	892 46	1040 90	141 42	—	113 10	521 56

Comparative Statement of Charges incurred at the Hambantota Fish-curing Yard for the Season ended April 15, 1888.

	Period.	Buildings.		Establishment.				Contingencies.			Total.
		New Works.	Repairs.	Officers in charge.		Watchers.		Cost of conveying Salt.		Other Items.	
				No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	Carriage.	Gunnies.		
		Rs. c.	Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
For this season ...	From Nov. 18, 1887, to April 15, 1888 ...	—	—	1	49 33	1	49 33	—	—	6 75	105 41
For the previous season ...	From Oct. 15, 1886, to Mar. 31, 1887 ...	—	—	1	55 0	1	87 50	—	—	7 48	149 98
Increase ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Decrease ...	—	—	—	—	5 67	—	38 17	—	—	0 73	44 57

The outturn of cured fish is about half what it was last year. Fewer boats came, owing, it is said, to an impression having got abroad that Government had discontinued the yard. Its discontinuance had been recommended during my absence, but Government decided to give the industry a further trial. I am however inclined to attribute the cause to a severe and prolonged outbreak of fever among the fishing villages during the greater part of the fishing season, preventing the men from leaving their families.

I found it useless to open another yard at Patanangala, as only two boats called there.

SAND HILLS.

Nothing appears to have been done in the way of planting out grass during the wet months of November and December, though there were some bare spots that required it much, and the plan I began of having all the town rubbish carted and spread over the sand appears to have been given up. The result was that sand began to shift during the high winds in September on the outlying dunes. This has been put a stop to now.

I find also that about 20 per cent. of the young palmirah plants, which were growing well nine months ago, have been rooted out by wild pigs through the negligence of the watcher in charge. A strong thorn fence now surrounds the planted portion, and every precaution has been taken to protect them from further depredation.

CATTLE.

There has been no disease to speak of among cattle. They have increased in numbers, especially black cattle, and the District may be said to have recovered from the murrain which devastated the herds three years ago. The return for this year give the number of cattle at—

Buffaloes	10,628
Black cattle	19,665
Goats	1,536

The long stretches of fine grass plains along the Mágama coast afford excellent feeding ground for cattle, and if native farmers with a little capital could only be induced to take up stock breeding they would find a good return for their money.

SALT DEPARTMENT.

The total quantity of salt collected at the different léwáyas is given below :—

					cwt.	qr.
Mahá Léwáya	...	...	...	...	31,062	38
Bundala	...	...	...	...	42,162	55
Palatupána	...	...	...	...	20,285	17
Jamburukala	...	...	...	...	12,714	77
			Total	...	106,224	75

The income derived from the sale of salt was Rs. 175,464·69 and the expenditure in the department Rs. 33,052·19, giving a net profit of Rs. 142,412·50.

JAIL AT TISSAMAHARÁMA.

A new jail was opened at Tissa in January last, and a gang of thirty prisoners transferred to it from Hambantota. The work they will principally be engaged upon will be the improvement of the paths and roads and repairs to irrigation works.

A new road is very much wanted to connect Tissa with the principal thoroughfare, the present one, passing through the bed of an old tank, being almost impassable in wet weather. The present track to Kirinda, the future shipping port of Tissa, will also have to be altered for the same reason. The pattu Muhandiram is now engaged in surveying a trace, and as soon as he finishes the prisoners will commence the construction of a gravel road. At present they are repairing the bunds of the old tanks referred to in my paragraph on irrigation at Tissa, and in patching up existing roads.

The presence of thirty able-bodied prisoners at Tissa, always engaged in carrying out some work of improvement, will soon effect a great change in the place.

A dispensary in charge of a medical practitioner has also been established there in connection with the jail. The dispenser has been authorised to treat outdoor patients as well as prisoners, and to supply medicines to those who require them.

DISTRICT ROAD COMMITTEE.

The work of the District Road Committee is treated of in a separate report which has been forwarded to Government, and will not therefore be referred to here.

ARCHÆOLOGY.

The opening up of the country in connection with the Walawé irrigation scheme has led to the discovery of ruined dágobas along both banks of the Walawé river. They are mostly large mounds of bricks overgrown with jungle. One spot, Ramba Viháré, about nine miles up the river, must have been the site of a large Buddhist establishment, for, in addition to the usual dágoba, groups of upright stone pillars and long rows of fallen bricks are to be found covering a large area of ground.

Some further excavations have been made round the Maharáma dágoba at Tissa and two or three broken statues of supposed kings have been dug out. One piece of beautiful workmanship is the trunk of a large-sized statue of some king carved in white stone resembling marble.

The restoration of the Yaṭṭala dágoba is now being pushed on more rapidly. The new brick coating has been built half way up, while the space round the base has been enlarged by further excavation.

Two antique riding stirrups found six feet below ground when the Tissa channel was first cut, have been sent to the Colombo Museum for examination, and to ascertain to what period they belonged, and whether of European or Indian manufacture.

The expenditure by Government of large sums of money on irrigation works for the last two years in this District has produced a marked effect for the better in the general condition of the people.

In the excavation of long lines of channels on the Walawé works local labour has been largely availed of to the benefit of the working classes, who have made use of their earnings in improving their small dwellings by the substitution of tiled buildings for thatched huts and extending their fruit gardens.

A great impetus has also been given to local trade. More shops have sprung up in the town of Hambantota and hawkers of cloth and other articles are more frequently met with in the villages.

The works themselves on which this expenditure is going on will in course of time enrich the District by the production of an almost unlimited supply of paddy.

C. A. MURRAY,
Assistant Government Agent.

EASTERN PROVINCE.

REVENUE ADMINISTRATION REPORT OF THE GOVERNMENT AGENT, EASTERN PROVINCE, FOR 1887.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

THE revenue of 1887 was, as will be seen from the subjoined comparative statement, less than that of the preceding year by Rs. 10,022 :—

Heads of Revenue.	1886. Rs. c.	1887. Rs. c.	Increase. Rs. c.	Decrease. Rs. c.
Arrears	6,261 95	9,209 26	2,947 31	—
Customs	50,953 59	57,418 75	6,465 16	—
Port Dues	1,383 26	1,855 44	472 18	—
Land Sales	23,388 57½	22,672 59	—	715 98½
Land Revenue	89,653 92	77,557 51	—	12,096 41
Rents, exclusive of Land	3,291 64	3,294 34	2 70	—
Licenses	58,248 71	57,780 92	—	467 79
Stamps	40,171 34	36,911 87	—	3,259 47
Taxes	3,099 73	3,499 97	400 24	—
Postal	208 51	271 57	63 6	—
Fines and Forfeitures	2,398 22	3,008 73	610 51	—
Sale of Govt. Property	114,733 41	114,244 54	—	488 87
Reimbursements	9,174 95½	10,066 84	891 88½	—
Miscellaneous	5,139 90¼	1,515 7	—	3,624 83¼
Interest	1,043 2	726 16	—	316 86
Pearl Fishery	3,971 32	3,088 68	—	882 64
Special Receipts	449 68	426 80	—	22 88
Total	413,571 73¼	403,549 4	—	10,022 69¼

The only items of increase worthy of notice are *Arrears* and *Customs*,—the former owing to a larger collection of land revenue and assessment tax in arrear, and the latter to increased importation of rice at Trincomalee to meet the wants principally of the large labour force employed on the fortifications. The decrease was owing chiefly to a falling off in the following sources of revenue :—(*a*) *Land Revenue*, (*b*) *Stamps*, and (*c*) *Miscellaneous*.

(*a*) Because the crops were poor in both Districts of the Province.

(*b*) The sale of postage stamps at the kachchéries having practically ceased, as postmasters are now supplied from the General Treasury through the Postmaster-General.

(*c*) A casual decrease, a large sum which had accumulated in deposit at Trincomalee on account of grazing fees having been credited to revenue in 1886.

The expenditure of 1887 amounted to Rs. 186,104·43, or Rs. 2,598·69 in excess of that of the previous year. The increase is chiefly under the head of *Provisional Salaries*, which includes the pay of two Irrigation Vanniyás newly appointed.

The financial transactions of the Forest Department are shown in the following statement. In addition to the amount expended on felling and general services, a sum of Rs. 15,300·07 was paid to license holders, being their share of the proceeds of sale of dead timber.

Statement of Receipts and Expenditure on account of Timber in the Eastern Province for 1887.

Particulars of Receipts.	Amount. Rs. c.	Total. Rs. c.
Amount of arrears recovered on account of timber sold in previous year	4,143 90	
Amount of timber felled without license and confiscated	314 76	
Amount of timber sold to public departments	6,738 40	
Amount of timber sold by public auction	25,111 39	
Royalty on timber felled by private parties	1,751 9	38,059 54
Amount due on Timber sold.		
From public departments	290 33	
From private parties	87 0	
Estimated value of timber in hand on December 31, 1887	37,423 51	37,800 84
Total		75,860 38

Particulars of Expenditure.	Amount. Rs. c.	Total. Rs. c.
Pay of Forester of the Eastern Province for 1887	4,000 0	
Travelling allowance to the Forester for 1887	800 0	
Pay of Assistant Forester for 1887	740 0	
Pay of Kankanies for 1887	660 0	
Pay of Peon for 1887	240 0	
Pay of coolies for 1887	1,440 0	
Amount paid for felling, &c., of timber, and other services	15,104 20	22,984 20
Balance in favour of Forest Department on actual transactions	15,075 34	
Amount to be recovered on account of timber sold	377 33	
Estimated value of cut timber in hand in various depôts	37,423 51	52,876 18
Total		75,860 38

I regret to have to report that the teak chenas referred to in the Acting Government Agent's report for 1886 have proved a failure, as the seed did not germinate. It is believed to have been not fully ripe. The late Conservator of Forests, Mr. Thompson, was doubtful as to the value of Ceylon-grown teak, and suggested that halmilla and other indigenous timber trees should be planted with the teak. This will be done in future. Steps will also be taken to reserve forests in which halmilla is found to be reproducing itself naturally, and to encourage its growth by removing the worthless underwood. The expense will not be great and it will be money well laid out.

FOOD SUPPLY OF THE PEOPLE.

The harvests were not so good last year as in 1886, and country-grown rice, which forms the principal food of the people, was not plentiful, though it does not appear that there was any scarcity of food. Kurakkan, Indian corn, and manioc (cassava) were largely grown on chenas, and added considerably to the food supply. The quantities of grain produced as reported by the headmen were: paddy 625,869 bushels, kurakkan and Indian corn 12,659 bushels. The price of paddy varied from Re. 1 to Re. 1·37½, and that of other grain from 62½ cents to Re. 1. 79,104 bushels of rice were imported from India during 1887. A small quantity of this was used by the people of the town, but the bulk of it went to supply the coolies on the estates in Uva. The Customs returns also show an export of 115,228 bushels of paddy during the past year, of which all except 335 bushels was taken to the Northern Province.

In respect of other articles of food I repeat what was written in last year's report :—

The quantity of plantains put into the market is not easily estimated, but they form a very considerable item in the dietary of the poorer classes. Fish forms another and very extensively used article of diet. It is mostly eaten fresh, and little is locally salted and cured, except by the Sinhalese fishermen who resort from other parts of the Island to the deep-sea fishing grounds on the coast. Sea-fishing is scarcely practised by the natives of the Province, the shallow lagoons and backwaters affording an abundant though inferior supply of fish for local requirements. Very little garden produce of any kind is raised, and for this reason the failure of the paddy crops must always be productive of great hardship to the poorer classes, who have nothing to fall back upon when the supply of rice fails. The cultivation of breadfruit and jakfruit has been scarcely attempted, and the growth of vegetables is almost entirely neglected. These remarks apply more particularly to the Batticaloa District, but the circumstances of the Trincomalee District are very similar.

LEGISLATION.

It is, as I suggested in my report for the year 1883, desirable to give to village councils the power to sentence offenders to imprisonment (or to labour on irrigation works) in default of payment of the fines imposed on them. The power to imprison is given to village tribunals and to the village committees, and the result is that fines are promptly recovered. Imprisonment is seldom found necessary.

The Butchers' Ordinance, No. 14 of 1859, and the Cattle Trespass Ordinance, No. 7 of 1876, should also be amended; the former by making more stringent the regulations relating to butchers and to the slaughtering of cattle in places beyond the towns, and the latter by requiring that due notice should be given of the sale of stray cattle, and that, in places not within the operation of the Village Communities Ordinance, 1871, cattle should be branded according to a uniform system.

WORKS REQUIRED.

As was done in the report of last year, I class these under three heads, viz. :—(*a*) Roads and Bridges, (*b*) Irrigation Works, (*c*) Buildings.

(*a*)—*Roads and Bridges.*

1. A bridge or causeway at Ondáchchimaḍam, eighteen miles from Batticaloa on the South Coast road. An estimate was once sanctioned for this work, but the vote taken was allowed to lapse. Mr. Moir, in his report for 1882, writes regarding this work: "The ferry at Ondáchchimaḍam is a great interruption to traffic, and prevents the road being availed of to the extent that it otherwise would be. It is unfortunate that the Government are unable to provide funds for a causeway across the outlet here. Such a work would be advantageous both in, at times, keeping out salt-water from the lake as well as in serving as a road."

2. "Causeways across the bars in Akkaraipattu on the South Coast road at Periyamukattuváram and Sinnamukattuváram. The road has now been gravelled to Tirukkovil, several miles beyond these points, but until the bars are made passable, the road is practically closed for traffic for several months in the year." (Administration Report, 1886.)

3. Improvement, by gravelling and bridging, of the Coast road (*a*) to Trincomalee on the north and (*b*) to Pottuvil on the south. In a previous report I asked for Rs. 10,000 a year for each of these sections, and I understood that the Governor approved. But no vote was taken last year. I think the Coast road should be gravelled and bridged all round the Island, but that is a work of time. The portions I have specified would be completed in a few years if the amount I have asked for be allowed. Mr. Fisher wrote last year with regard to this road :—"In the northern section is included six miles of road leading from Muttur to Toppur in the Koḍḍiyárpattu of the Trincomalee District. I beg to urge strongly the claims of the people of this division to some consideration. They have not a single mile of road in the division, and the whole of the grain grown under Allai has to be carted with great difficulty over natural roads."

4. A road to Kandy *viâ* Alutnuwara.

5. The extension of the Karaittívu-viriyadi road to Váripatanchéna. A vote on account was taken for this work in the last Supply Bill.

6. Improvement of the approaches to the town of Batticaloa (*a*) from Manmunai east, either by building a bridge across Kalladi ferry or a bridge to Buffalo island, and another from the island to the mainland, and (*b*) from Vavunattívu on the west (a causeway between Mántivu and Vavunattívu, and a bridge from Mántivu to Valaiyiravu), and the improvement of the road to Tumpalanchólai, by which the distance to Badulla will be shortened by eight miles.

7. Six iron bridges of thirty feet span each to replace wooden platforms at Maha-oya on the Badulla-Batticaloa road.

8. Bridges across the Batticaloa lake at Manmunai, Paḍḍiruppu, and Kiḍḍanki.

9. Improvement of the roads to Pulukanáwa tank, and from Vavunattívu to Sammanturai. These are minor roads, but the District Road Committee has not funds to keep them up except as natural roads.

10. "A branch road leading from the principal road at Karunkoddittívu through Paddimédu and Urakkaivaddai to meet the road leading from Tirukkóvil to Sákámam, a distance of nine miles. This passes through an extensive cultivated tract which has no proper outlet." [Administration Report, 1886.]

11. A road from Pottuvil to Muppané. This will place the southern part of the Batticaloa District (which will soon, owing to the restoration of tanks, grow more rice than the people will consume) in easy communication with the Monarágala planting districts.

(*b*)—*Irrigation Works.*

1. The completion of the Irakkámam-Amparai irrigation scheme, which includes the following works :—

(*a*) Construction of Kondavaddavan tank.
(*b*) Morávil anicut at Tinnaiyándimadu with four head sluices situated between Varipatánchena and Malliyattívu.
(*c*) Kudamurutti anicut and head sluice (Mávadipalli).
(*d*) Sammanvaitta-odai anicut and three head sluices on border of Karaváku and Sammanturai pattus on branch of Kurunatkanchi stream.
(*e*) Udaiyaveli anicut and one head sluice.
(*f*) Ulláru anicut.
(*g*) Valalavay anicut and two head sluices.
(*h*) Tillaiyáru anicut and two head sluices.
(*i*) Sluice at Kumárakudiyiruppu.

Each year of drought, such as the present, shows more and more clearly that it is necessary to have a larger storage of water. For this purpose the construction of Kondavaddavan is recommended.

2. Anicut and distributing channels under Pulukanawa tank. These are required for the irrigation of lands which the water of the tank does not at present reach.

3. Anicut below Sákámam tank across Tálipoddáru to enable the people to cultivate their lands under this tank earlier than at present. They now put up a dam of earth to divert the water to their fields, but cannot do this until the water in the stream is low.

4. Anicut across Vírakaddáru for the purpose of utilising the surplus water of Rúkam tank. There is always more than sufficient water in the tank for the irrigation of the lands which it now serves, and the construction of the anicut proposed will give a certain supply of water to a large extent of fine land.

5. Construction of Vákanéri tank and an anicut across the Mántarai-áru for the irrigation of lands in Kóralaipattu.

6. The construction of a dam at Manmunai, five miles south of Batticaloa, to keep the salt water out of the lake.

7. Construction of a channel from the Virugal-áru to feed Allai tank, Trincomalee District.

(*c*)—*Buildings.*

(1) A residence for the District Judge, Batticaloa, who has at present to rent a house. There is not much choice of houses, and the accommodation is inferior.

(2) A residence for the District Engineer, Kalmunai.

(3) A resthouse at the 13th milepost, Trincomalee-Kandy road, and one at the 81st milepost, Badulla-Batticaloa road.

(4) Outdoor dispensaries at Karunkodittívu in Akkaraipattu, Batticaloa District, and at Tóppúr, Trincomalee District, and an ophthalmic ward at Kalmunai.

PLANS FOR IMPROVEMENT OF THE PROVINCE.

Irrigation works and improved means of communication are the great wants of the Province. Two irrigation schemes for the Trincomalee District were mentioned in the Assistant Government Agent's report for 1886, and one of them, viz., the construction of a channel to feed Allai tank, is again referred in the report for the past year. This would, no doubt, prove a most useful work.

In the Batticaloa District there is a great deal to be done, and chiefly in the way of irrigation. I would invite especial attention to the proposal to construct a dam to keep the salt water out of the southern portion of the Batticaloa lake. This scheme will benefit an immense area of paddy land. A dam or anicut with movable planks at Manmunai, and a causeway with planked openings at Ondachchimadam, are required. Both these should be so constructed as to serve as bridges. And the Province is so subject to drought that a number of large store-tanks are urgently wanted. Kondavaddavan and Vákanéri are the most important.

The roads we require are specified in the list of works. I should very much like to see a vote taken annually for the improvement of all those mentioned, especially of the Coast road and that to Kandy *viâ* Alutnuwara ; and I hope that next year our post will be carried along the road last named. There will be a saving of about fifteen hours by using that route.

WORKING OF THE GRAIN TAX ORDINANCE.

In the Trincomalee District the Grain Tax Ordinance was, the Assistant Government Agent reports, as successfully worked in 1887 as in the preceding year ; and no lands have been sold for default. The headmen of this District all report that there has been great difficulty in recovering the commutation, but that is nothing new in Batticaloa. It always is difficult to get the people to pay taxes of any kind. Their complaint in respect of the commutation is that it is high, and I intend, as soon as possible, to make a careful inquiry into the matter. In the meantime I may remark that the total annual commutation under the Grain Tax Ordinance is Rs. 61,158·46, while in 1878, under the voluntary system, it was Rs. 60,234. The extent of paddy land cultivated has certainly increased

largely since 1878. In addition to the annual commutation there is an extent of about 24,000 acres assessed for crop commutation. These lands are seldom cultivated. The Grain Commissioner estimated that about 8,000 acres would, on an average, be cultivated annually, yielding a revenue of Rs. 10,000.

In 1878 the Government share on the uncommuted lands realised Rs. 15,509, and the average total revenue from paddy for the seven years, 1872–78, was Rs. 72,100. At first sight, therefore, the new commutation, as compared with the period just mentioned at any rate, does not seem to be high. After 1878 commutation was accepted to a limited extent only. The tax of the uncommuted lands was rented, and the revenue diminished considerably, because the Government did not get what was really due. Mr. Elliott, in his Administration Notes on the Eastern Province, 1883, remarks, with regard to the so-called renting system. "This ..... confirms the dissatisfaction expressed by successive Government Agents with the mode of renting in force here, viz., by separate fields, instead of the villages and divisions. This was originally introduced with the best of motives, and with the intention of freeing the cultivators from the oppression and rapacity of the renters. At first, too, the number of fields rented was limited, as voluntary commutation was the rule and very extensively accepted up to 1878. Now there is no competition; each man buys his field pretty nearly at his own figure, and is only prevented from getting it at a nominal rate by the Agent presiding at the sale raising the price. It is difficult to say what the loss to Government is."

The commutation of 1887 has not yet all been recovered. A few lands were sold, principally to mortgagees. It is said that the intention was to buy for the Crown all the lands in default for which there were no bids, but no formal purchases were made, and no certificates of sale have been issued. The lands which were purchased for the Crown in 1887 for arrears of commutation of 1886 have been restored to the owners in honour of Her Majesty's jubilee.

PUBLIC HEALTH, &c.

There was no epidemic disease during last year. Fever, especially after the rains, paraṇgi in parts of the Province, and ophthalmia in the dry season, are the prevailing diseases. There is a Government hospital at Batticaloa and one at Trincomalee, as well as a dispensary with a resident medical officer at Kalmunai, where a paraṇgi ward is being built this year. There are numerous native medical men, some of whom have a large practice. I recommend the establishment of outdoor dispensaries at the centres of population, to be visited on stated days by a medical officer. The people submit themselves willingly to European treatment where they have an opportunity, especially in cases of paraṇgi and fever.

There was no disease among cattle.

CRIME.

Speaking generally, the Province appears to have been free from serious crimes. Cattle-stealing is said to have increased in some parts and decreased in others. It is unfortunately too common. The village committees are passing rules this year which will, I hope, tend to check it. The Assistant Government Agent, Trincomalee, gives the particulars of two serious crimes which were committed in the town.

NEW AREAS OF CULTIVATION.

According to the reports of the Vanniyás, 1,640 acres of paddy land were brought under cultivation during the year, and every year adds considerably to the area planted with cocoanuts, especially in the Eraúr and Kóralai pattus.

REMARKABLE EVENTS.

The jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen was loyally celebrated in this Province, as it was elsewhere, on June 28. An account of the proceedings will be found amongst the Sessional Papers of 1887.

In December there was an unusually high flood, equalled only by those of 1884 and 1878.

ALLANSON BAILEY,
Government Agent.

Extracts from Diary.

March 1.—Rode from Panama to Okenda, about eight miles. The upkeep of the road has been very much neglected, and in places it is overgrown with bushes and jungle. On the way down I visited a léwáya, or lagoon on which salt forms. The Raṭémahatmayá proposes that we should collect and store the salt to prevent its theft and export into the Uva country. It is notorious that the people of this division never buy salt, and they no doubt procure all their supplies in a dishonest manner. The collection of the salt would prevent illicit manufacture and traffic, and would give the poor people of the division a means of earning a living.

In the evening I explored the forest for some miles to the westward, but saw no game of any sort. The forest is poor and contains very little valuable timber.

The déwálé at Okenda is held in great veneration, and it is at present presided over by a Tamil man from Tirikovil. The rock above the temple is full of large water-holes which never fail.

March 2.—In the morning to Wagure plain, eight miles, where I camped and had breakfast. A few years ago this was one of the famous shooting grounds in the Island, but the deer and buffalo have been all but exterminated, and I saw none although I walked for miles through the forest and visited some well-known resorts.

In the evening I rode on towards the Kumbukan-áru (the boundary) for four miles and then diverged and walked four miles through the forest to inspect Komari tank, a very fine reservoir fed in ancient times from the river, across which a stone dam was thrown. The bisókoṭuwa is in ruins, but the bund is in fair order. The tank rarely fills now, and the people complain that they suffer a great deal in consequence; for want of water their crops as often as not failing when the tank runs out. If an anicut were thrown across the river the supply of water would be practically inexhaustible, as the stream is a permanent one and, like the Walawe-gaṇga, has always a large body of water flowing down it.

March 3.—Returned to Okenda, fourteen miles. I turned aside to visit a wretched little village called Hallawe, standing on the borders of the beautiful plain of that name. There are only four houses, and the people live entirely by hunting if left to their own devices; but this year they have been persuaded by the Registrar, who claims to be the landlord of the village, to cultivate a small portion of the plain.

I sent back the completion report for the upkeep of the South coast road to the Provincial Engineer for further explanation. A large balance (Rs. 1,464·21) is shown on the estimate, while the upkeep of the road has been completely neglected for thirty-four miles south of Komari. The road ought at all times to be quite passable for carts, and I see no merit in saving on an estimate when the work provided for is not done.

March 4.—In the morning returned to Panama, where I disposed of kachchéri papers, and rode four miles in the evening to Náulla tank, which is being restored. The masonry is all but completed, and the greater portion of the earthwork on the bund has been finished, but further progress has been prevented by the filling of the tank. The shield walls of the spill have been very badly constructed and will have to be rebuilt; but in other respects the work appears to have been well done. Two hundred acres of land are now being sown, and the Raṭémahatmayá tells me that 200 more will be sown next year. The tank is being repaired at very trifling cost, and the results are in every way satisfactory. The landowners asked that the outlet channel might be blasted to a greater width, and I promised that this should be done. It will not cost more than Rs. 100. Water is required for four months, and I fear that we shall not be able to resume work until June next.

March 5.—To Lahugalla, nine miles. This is the first of the interior Siṇhalese villages lying along the Uva border. The forest from Naulla as far as this village contains some magnificent mililla and halmililla timber, but no palu, which is singular.

Nearly every man, woman, and child in the village is diseased, and I exempted nearly all the men from their liability to labour. I hope the restoration of the tank, which has been approved of, will improve the health of the people and induce settlement from other parts. I examined the division officer's account for the Siṇhalese pattus and found that only fourteen men remained to be dealt with. These I ordered to be turned out on the Lahugalla bund, in order that the division officer might close his accounts; and I will arrange with the District Engineer for paying for the value of the labour.

March 6.—In the morning I rode to Hulánnugé, ten miles, passing the Lahugalla tank, in which a rogue elephant was feeding. I passed through a portion of the Badulla boundary which loops in here, and crossed the streams which feed Roṭawęwa. The forest the whole way is very fine, the majority of timber trees being mililla (of great size), ranai, and halmililla. I did not see a single palu tree, and I am informed that none of this timber is to be found till we emerge from the deep forest at Irrakkámam. The villagers of Hulánnugé are quite Kandyan in appearance. They have abandoned the cultivation of their fields (about 40 acres in extent) since the introduction of the commutation system. The whole village was assessed as one parcel for crop commutation, and they say that they can never cultivate the whole at one time and cannot afford to pay the tax if they cultivate only a portion.

In the evening I rode on eight miles and camped under the picturesque hill Kumburuwęlla, on the site of an abandoned village. The forest about here has been sadly cut up by chena cultivation, but I see no way of arresting the devastation going on unless some of the old irrigation works are restored. To stop chena cultivation would amount to cutting the people off from all food supply. They now live in a chena until the soil is exhausted and then change ground.

March 7.—To Pallagama, six miles. The road runs over very rough ground. There are no paddy lands in this village, and the people subsist entirely by chena cultivation. They look upon the forest as ancestral property, and complained that they were not allowed to fell jungle of over ten years' growth. I asked them whether they would settle if Government gave them the land free of tax for some years. But they replied that no inducement would persuade them to leave their village; and as for paddy cultivation they knew nothing of it. They complained of having to pay poll tax when there was no road within twenty or thirty miles of their village, and it does seem a hard case that they should be placed on the same footing as the seaboard people. I promised them, in reference to this, that I would bring the condition of the interior villages under the notice of the Provincial Road Committee, and would endeavour to obtain the sanction of Government to the reduction of the poll tax from Re. 1·50 to Re. 1

In the evening I rode on nine miles to Ekkalua, the village of the newly-appointed Kórála. It consists of a few wretched huts, but has some good paddy land, and I inspected the remains of two village tanks which, if restored, would prove very useful. I ordered the Kórála to have the bund cleared for survey, and I hope to effect the repair of one at least this year.

I wrote to the Colonial Secretary, in reference to an application from the Assistant Government Agent of Trincomalee asking permission to manufacture 30,000 cwt. of salt, suggesting that the Assistant Government Agent should have standing orders to manufacture as much salt as possible. The season is likely to be an exceptionally favourable one, and now that every communication with the North-Central Province exists, we may count on selling all the salt collected.

March 8.—In the morning to Kiula, about six miles. This village is under Wadunagala. The inhabitants have a very squalid and half-fed appearance They have some fields, but depend mainly on chena produce for a living. I passed two breached tanks, the bunds of which are scarcely traceable. In the centre of the village there is a very fine rock spring which serves for drinking purposes. I exempted nearly all the working men of the village from their liability to labour. In the evening I rode on to Padagoḍa, about nine miles. The forest between the two villages is secondary in character and contains no good timber. At Padagoḍa I inquired into the circumstances attending the murder of the late Kórála, who was waylaid and shot, but I was unable to elicit anything fresh. It is now generally believed that he was shot by men of his own village, and the only person who appears to take any interest in trying to discover the perpetrators of the crime is the division officer, a son-in-law of the deceased. He, however, is a native of the Badulla District, and I do not anticipate that he will be able to discover much.

I examined the division officer's accounts, and finding that he has only twenty men to turn out I ordered them to work on the road between this village and Irrakkámam I was sorry to hear to-day from Mr. Pennycuick that there was likely to be some distress in the northern seaboard villages of the Trincomalee District in consequence of the general failure of crops, but the number of villages is not very great, and their wants can easily be relieved should any occasion arise for rendering them assistance. I have asked for a further report later on.

March 9.—I walked across to Irrakkámam, twelve miles, inspecting on the way the Kalimáḍu anicut and the inlet channel from the Paṭṭipal-áru river to the tank. The tank is now full, and is holding up 13 ft. head of water. The supply is quite sufficient for the kálavelamai sowing, but the Irrigation Vanniyá complains that the inlet channel is of insufficient capacity to serve efficiently as a feeder during the dry months, when there is no local rain, but when flushes come down the river from the hill country and ought to be utilised for the growing crops. It is quite evident that the channel is much too small, and I promise to bring the matter for consideration before the Irrigation Board. The complaint comes from the landowners on the left bank of the river. They consider that they should have a channel, taking off above the anicut, to water their lands. The construction of this has hitherto been resisted on the ground that the supply to the inlet channel would be affected. But, as pointed out by the Vanniyá, the river when in flood can supply twenty such channels, and there is really no reason why the landowners on the left bank should not participate in the benefits conferred by the construction of the anicut. The landowners only ask that they may be allowed to have water when the river is full, and they make no demand for water when it is required to fill the tank.

In the evening I disposed of kachchéri papers and ordered a penalty of Rs. 480 to be imposed on a timber contractor, who had been felling green timber under cover of a license to cut dead logs in chenas. The forest kankani who stamped the trees was, I have little doubt, bribed, and I have ordered his dismissal.

March 10.—To Ambare tank. I inspected the works, which are in a satisfactory condition, and drew up and forwarded the report of the Provincial Irrigation Board recommending appropriation of the unexpended balances of last year and a part appropriation of the allotment of Rs. 25,000 allowed for the execution of minor works during the present year. I wrote also to the Colonial Secretary pointing out that it was absolutely necessary that some money should be allowed to the Provincial Board to cover the cost of surveys, and suggested that the Director of Public

Works should be asked to apportion something from his general vote for surveys to this Province. Mr. Ward, the District Engineer of Kalmunai, joined me in the evening.

March 11.—I walked over in the morning to Kondavattaván with Mr. Ward, and then crossed through the jungle to Viriyaḍi, about eleven miles. We breakfasted here and decided on visiting Mahakanḍiyawęwa, which we reached about dark, travelling the whole way through beautiful park country artificially formed by chena cultivation. We found the people living about in chenas, which they abandon as soon as the soil is exhausted. The "illuk" grass then takes possession of the ground, and the annual fires effectually prevent any regrowth of the forest and destroys every vestige of jungle that remains when the chena is abandoned. The Kórála of the division accompanied us. He is most anxious for the restoration of the Mahakanḍiyawęwa. The Siṇhalese look upon it as a tank peculiarly their own, as it stands quite in the centre of the Siṇhalese division; and he states that he would have no difficulty in persuading the villagers to abandon chena cultivation and to take up the land under the tank.

We made a hurried inspection of the bund, which is about five miles in length, and apparently breached only in two places where the two sluices were built. The bund constantly runs into high ground, but the average height of the formation part does not exceed 20 ft. The tank is cut in two by a dividing ridge running at right-angles to the bund back into the high ground. A great portion of the bed of the tank is an open plain. It is very difficult to judge of the extent, but it is probably 3,000 acres in area. Two powerful streams issue from the tank and run into the Batticaloa lake at Mandur, some twenty miles distant. The land lying on both banks of the streams is irrigable, and probably about 18,000 acres could be watered if the tank were restored. We were unable to discover the spills, but I expect that they will be found in the rocky ground lying at either extremity of the bund. From the hasty inspection made we judged that Rs. 50,000 would be sufficient to rebuild the sluices and put the bund in order to hold up 12 ft. head of water. But at even double this cost the restoration of the work would be a very paying undertaking. It is necessary that some steps should be taken to arrest the wholesale destruction of forest in the Siṇhalese divisions, and the repair of this work affords the best means of putting a stop to it.

March 12.—We rode through Viriyaḍi to Chadiyantaláwa, inspecting on the way Viragoḍa tank, the repair of which, as an auxiliary work to Chadiyantaláwa, I propose bringing forward shortly. The bund runs across a valley at its narrowest point and terminates on rocky ground at both ends. It is breached in two places, and below the lesser breach there are a few fragments of stone to mark the site of the old sluice. Mr. Ward has made a contour of the bed of the tank, and he estimates its area at 300 acres. The bed is very uniform in level, and in this respect the tank has a great advantage over Chadiyantaláwa, which, with 13 ft. at the sluice, immediately runs back into high ground, and has not an average depth of more than 3 ft. I think it is probable that Viragoḍa was first constructed, and that after it burst Chadiyantaláwa was built on a much smaller scale across a lower neck of the valley. The existence of the upper work was not suspected when Chadiyantaláwa was restored, and we made the mistake of repairing a very inferior work, which has ever since been a constant source of disappointment. After completing an inspection of the tank we rode on to Chadiyantaláwa, where I disposed of kachchéri papers.

I issued instructions to the Forester to confine his operations during the first six months of the year to cutting dead timber, and on no account to exceed an expenditure of half the vote allowed for Forest Services.

I also wrote to the Assistant Government Agent of Trincomalee, with reference to the proposed sale of the rent of Vellai plain as a grazing ground, informing him that in my opinion the Vellai plain and all ground south of the Mahawęli-gaṇga should be reserved as a game preserve, but that unless the Government Agent of the North-Central Province co-operated and refused to lease the Tammankaḍuwa plains, it would be of very little use to attempt to preserve the Vellai plain alone. I remember these grounds when they abounded with game, but of recent years everything has been driven off by the cattle grazers, who are Coast men having no permanent interest in the country. The villagers are very much opposed to these men being allowed to shoot, but it is impossible to prevent their doing so unless they are entirely excluded from the plains to the south of the river. The amount realised by the lease of the grounds is too insignificant to be worth consideration.

March 13.—We walked to Devilána, twelve miles. The forest is fine-looking, but it has very little of any worth growing in it. I was sorry to find the spill in the centre of the bund leaking badly. Both the shield walls are badly cracked, and they appear to have been forced forward about an inch by the weight of the bund behind them. Mr. Ward is waiting until the tank has been run down to deal with the leaks. The more I see of these mortar-built masonry works, the more unsatisfactory I think them. The works in this Province are all of massive proportions, and they have been built as well as possible; and yet within fifteen years we have Sagamam, Chadiyantaláwa, Rúgam, and Allai, all leaking badly, requiring special upkeep estimates for effecting repairs.

I wrote to the Colonial Secretary asking that the allotment of Rs. 25,000 might be remitted to me for expenditure, and asked for directions as to the manner in which the Provincial Board should keep its accounts. I also wrote asking that the Irrigation Board might be permitted the privilege of indenting for stores direct on the Colonial Storekeeper, as we are often now kept waiting for months for our stores in consequence of the delay that arises in passing our indents.

March 14.—Rode through the forest to Puluganáwa and inspected the teak plantations, which are doing very well.

In the evening I rode on to Kaḍukamunai to inspect the anicut and new channel, with a view of passing the completion report. The anicut has been well finished off. It stands on a rock foundation, but I do not think the piers were sufficiently let into the rock for stability. The channel is breached in several places, and the brick-and-mortar distributing sluices (built only eighteen months ago) have already tumbled down. They were badly designed, and the materials employed were not suited to the construction of works which had to stand so much rough usage. The channel and anicut have been two years under construction, when the whole estimate might with ordinary energy have been spent in six months. The Acting Provincial Engineer met me here, and we agreed on the repairs and new works necessary; and I asked him to submit estimates for the consideration of the Provincial Irrigation Board. The channel is quite useless as it is, and I must decline to pass the completion report. After inspecting Kaḍukkamunai tank I took boat and reached Batticaloa about 9 P.M.

April 21.—Mr. Hayes, the Acting Provincial Engineer, and Mr. Ward, the District Engineer of Kalmunai, report to me that their survey of the so-called Mahakanḍiyawęwa (see my diary entry of March 11) has entirely exploded the idea of its being a large tank. The bund is not a continuous one, and much that was reported of the bund by Mr. Thornton is a mere rocky ridge never touched by water. There are two tanks, both useful in their way, but entirely disconnected, and neither apparently of any great extent. It is singular that the tradition of a great tank having existed should have been so long cherished, and should apparently never have been questioned. I confess that I was personally entirely misled by appearances.

April 29.—In the morning I drove to Illupiaddechena and renewed the acts of some headmen. In the afternoon I drove on to Tumpalancholai, twenty-four miles.

April 30.—In the morning I inspected two small tanks with very large names, which the Tamil settlers from the coast at Pillumallai are very anxious to have restored. There are two quiet flourishing colonies of coast men settled at Rúkam and at Tampiṭiya (which they have re-christened Pillumallai), and they are deserving of every encouragement. They have been very much disheartened by repeated loss of crops, and speak of abandoning the village unless the tanks are restored. The first of them, Diyariṭagearapaṭṭiwęwa, is, I think, a promising work of the village tank class: about 40 acres in extent, with a bund of about 600 yards in length, which has been breached in one place only—the site, probably, of the ancient sluice. The whole bed of the tank and a portion of the bund is overgrown with heavy jungle. I am not sure that it would not be better to raise the road to Badulla to act as the bund, and to abandon the old work, which has subsided in places almost to the level of the surrounding ground. The area of the tank would be increased five or six acres and the sluice could very well be built under the bridge which spans the stream flowing out of the breach. The second tank which I inspected, Kandelandewęwa, is hardly worth restoring, the storage being scarcely equal to the irrigation of fifteen acres, I should say.

In the evening I drove on to Maha-oya and renewed the acts of the headmen of Bintenna. The Raṭémahtamayá has recently had his house burnt down, and he has lost a large quantity of property. I gave him permission to cut any timber he wanted to re-erect his house.

I inspected the Maha-oya tank, the spill of which has been raised 2 ft. The work has been well done, but I found a serious leak running from the tank and behind the wing-wall of the spill out in front of the sluice. The water was much discoloured, and portions of the bund are evidently being washed away. I wrote at once to the Provincial Engineer to take steps to stop the leak. I also wrote to him requesting him to survey the larger of the tanks inspected by me this morning.

REPORT ON THE TRINCOMALEE DISTRICT FOR 1887.

I WAS appointed to act as Assistant Government Agent of Trincomalee in June in place of the confirmed officer, who obtained leave of absence for seven months and returned in December, when I left again for my former station.

It is satisfactory to find that the revenue shows a handsome increase over that of the preceding year, and is due principally to the large increase in duty on imported grain and the income derived from the sale of salt. The large labour force employed on the new fortifications accounted in one way for the rise in these sources of revenue.

IRRIGATION.

I give below, in their order, the irrigation works carried out and the schemes suggested for future development :—

1. The most important work constructed during the year was the anicut across the outlet stream of the Allai tank. The old dam of sticks and mud breached every year, and had to be repaired at considerable expense by the cultivators. A permanent masonry structure has now taken its place and serves to irrigate 300 acres, with the possibility of bringing 100 acres more under cultivation if the supply of water is sufficient.

2. In connection with this tank (Allai) I have laid before Government a scheme for supplying it with water all through the year. At present it is dependent solely on rainfall, and fills only once a year. When the rains fail the tank is empty, and there is no cultivation. Not merely are the fields immediately below the tank affected, but all the long ranges down the six miles of the Mutur channel suffer more or less. This was the case last year when the unusual drought only partially filled the tank, and cultivation was confined to a small tract below the tank.

The new scheme will secure regular cultivation at least once a year over 2,000 acres, and in some of the ranges a second crop could easily be grown.

A reference to a map of the District will show that Allai lies between the Mahaweli-gaṇga and its branch, the Verukal-áru. The former is a never-failing river, while the latter is almost so. To connect the tank with either of those rivers is a project deserving the attention of Government, and one that has been suggested by previous Assistant Agents. No examination appears, however, to have yet been made with the object of finding out whether the scheme is a feasible one. In August last I explored the country lying between the river, and, guided by information from villagers, traced a well-defined channel branching off from the Verukal-áru, about two miles below its point of divergence from the main river. The channel winds its way through two or three plains, which must have been fields at one time, till it reaches an open space called Palle Villai, where it is disconnected from the lower section called the Kilíveṭṭi stream by a large open depression. The continuity of the stream, however, is not lost, for after filling the depression the water again enters into the Kilíveṭṭi stream and flows on into Allai. The upper section is called the Vellai-áru, and is interrupted in two places by the breaching of its right bank, allowing the water to flow back into the river from which it takes off. In spite of these defects the water in high floods forces its way past the two breaches over the depression, and finally flows into Allaikulam. There is no lack of water in the heavy rains of the north-east monsoon. It is in the dry months of the year, from June to October, that the want of water is felt; and sometimes when there is a failure of the usual north-east rains the tank fails to fill, and then follows a period of distress and scarcity. I now propose that the old channel should be put in order, and that every effort should be made to secure the water brought down by periodical floods in the Verukal-áru during the season. No expensive anicut is necessary, as the water flows freely into the channel. The two breaches in the Kilíveṭṭi stream should be blocked up, and an embanked channel made across the Palle Villai depression.

Andankulam.

The cutting of a channel from this tank to the fields at Sampian-áru was commenced by prison labour in November. It was at first decided to apportion a sum of money from the irrigation vote for this work, but, owing to unaccountable delays in furnishing surveys and plans for a channel, the time for obtaining a vote was allowed to pass. I then asked the permission of Government to employ prison labour on the work. This was sanctioned, and the cutting once commenced will, it is hoped, be completed in February. The Sampian fields, which the tank will irrigate, depend now on the north-east rains, and are cultivated only once a year. The tank will enable villagers to cultivate twice, besides ensuring them against a possible failure in the wet season.

There is about a square mile of irrigable land now covered with jungle lying between the tank and present fields, through which the new channel passes. This, no doubt, will all be brought under cultivation in course of time.

Tanks in Siṇhalese Villages.

The Siṇhalese villages adjoining the Anurádhapura District, and to the right of the new road to that District, are deserving of some attention from Government. They possess some fine tanks with bunds in a good state of preservation, but much neglected and covered with jungle. A few of them have still their old stone sluices, which might with a little expenditure be put into proper working order again.

Kanthalai.

This fine tank filled in December, and presented a magnificent appearance from the bund. The spill has been raised two feet to add as many to the head of water. In order that the water should be utilised as much as possible, channels should be cut to some fine ranges lying at the back of Kiniyai, which are now cultivated with rain with the usual risks attending such cultivation.

The majority of proprietors of what is known as the old Jaffna and Batticaloa Agricultural Company's land have applied to have a channel cut from the upper main channel from Kanthalai tank. The subject has been under consideration for years, but nothing definite decided on. I have summoned a meeting of the proprietors to decide—(1) Whether they choose to have the channel cut at their own expense; or (2) Whether Government is to have it cut on their paying an annual water-rate of Re. 1 an acre.

A trace of the channel has already been made and found to be a mile and a half in length. It will serve to open up an additional 400 acres.

FOOD SUPPLY.

The inhabitants of the town of Trincomalee subsist principally on rice imported from India. The Customs returns give the quantity imported at bushels 63,326. The average price in the market was Rs. 3·50 per bushel. The working classes had no reason to complain of want of employment, as they found ample means of earning a livelihood in the Naval and Military Departments of the station.

The inhabitants along the coast live on rice locally grown. The supply, however, is not always to be relied on, as the crops depend on rain, and when this fails scarcity of food is more or less felt. The drought of the year under review caused a total failure of crop in the villages to the north, and if it had not been for the fine crop under Tamblegam, where the villagers were able to earn wages in kind by helping at the harvest, the distress would have been much felt.

The Sinhalese villages in the interior have a fair supply of rice grown under their tanks. Chena cultivation is not much carried on in the District. It is forbidden on Crown lands, except in years of scarcity, when the rule is relaxed and the people allowed to clear low jungle in the neighbourhood of their villages.

GRAIN TAX RECOVERIES.

The Grain Tax Ordinance was as successfully worked this year as the last, almost all the tax having been recovered within the year, and no lands sold for default. This reflects great credit on the manner in which the Vánniahs, who are entrusted with the collection, do their duty, and in the tact and judgment they show in dealing with defaulters.

SALT.

Favoured by a long dry season a large collection of salt was made at the Niláveli saltpans, enough to supply the whole Province for the next two years. A large quantity was sent to Batticaloa immediately after the collection, and an extra shed had to be built to store the balance that remained after filling the permanent stores at Niláveli and Trincomalee.

CATTLE.

There has been no disease among cattle, though they suffered much from drought in August and September. No deaths, however, are reported from this cause. Cattle breeding and rearing has become quite a distinct occupation among the Moors of the District. Large herds of a mixed breed are reared on pasture lands covered with the luscious Mauritius grass floated down by the Mahaweli-gaṇga from estates in the Central Province, and which has taken root and spread in plains inundated by the river during floods. In one plain I walked over (Koombanachchi) it is from two to three feet high, and with its fresh green colour formed a pleasant contrast to the arid appearance of the surrounding country. Cattle owners were not slow to take advantage of the abundant forage these plains afforded in the dry season, when everything in the shape of grass was parched and dried up all around.

HEALTH AND SANITATION.

The District has been comparatively free from epidemics. The usual mild cases of fever and colds occurred at the break of the north-east monsoon.

The sanitary condition of the town is being yearly improved by closer attention to drainage and the scavenging of the streets. It is unnecessary to enter into details here, as the subject is more fully gone into in my report on the Local Board.

The town of Trincomalee is well provided with the means of rendering medical aid to the sick in the Government hospital and two private dispensaries.

The outlying villages, however, are much in want of one or two outdoor dispensaries, and I would strongly recommend that one be established at Tóppúr, where a large Tamil and Moorish population is settling down to cultivation round the irrigation works there. The dispenser should visit all surrounding villages, including the populous one of Tamblegam, carrying a stock of medicines with him for distribution wherever he goes.

CRIME.

The year has been marked by the commission of two or three serious crimes in the town. The first was a burglary accompanied by violence in the outskirts of the town, and a month or two later three cases of highway robbery on the Anurádhapura road on the same day by two men. The culprits in both cases, seven in number, were arrested, and after a trial in the Supreme Court were sentenced to terms of imprisonment varying from eight to ten years. A daring burglary was committed towards the end of the year, in which a heavy iron chest containing money was bodily removed to the adjoining jungle, where it was found the next day by a search party with the money intact. The dead body of one of the thieves, was found lying near the store killed, as one of the thieves confessed afterwards, by a companion accidentally. Four men have been arrested, and the case against them is still undergoing investigation. Another case of murder, which baffled all efforts at detection for some time, is now being successfully traced. The accused, who is a wealthy

trader, made his escape to India, and the authorities there have been communicated with to secure his arrest.

Cattle-stealing is carried on, but not to very great extent. Complaints are sometimes made from the Anurádhapura District of cattle being stolen across the boundary, and orders were issued to the headmen to keep a strict watch. The few cases reported are from the neighbourhood of Kiniyai, where some of the Malay residents are accused of helping themselves to cattle belonging to the neighbouring village of Tamblegam.

Stolen cattle can easily be secreted among the large herds which are pastured in the extensive grass plains along the banks of the Mahaweli-gaṇga.

RAILWAY TO TRINCOMALEE.

This is a subject which must force itself on the attention of the Imperial Government at no distant date. The growing importance of the town as a naval and military station, and the natural advantages it offers in possessing one of the finest harbours in the East, have led to the fortifications being increased and the garrisons strengthened. The necessity, therefore, of connecting it with the other lines of railway in the Island, instead of leaving it an isolated place, cut off from the nearest arterial road by a belt of almost uninhabited jungle sixty miles broad, and traversed only by a gravel road, is obvious.

The Ceylon Government might, with a small contribution, open up stations along the line, which must, in taking the shortest route, pass through the neighbourhood of Polonnáruwa and Minneriya, a tract of country known to possess facilities for irrigation, and which was once covered with a teeming population.

CELEBRATION OF THE JUBILEE.

Among the events of the year must be recorded the celebration of Her Majesty the Queen's jubilee, when all classes and nationalities vied with each other in doing honour to the occasion. A report of the proceedings was forwarded to Government.

AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL.

The agricultural instructor sent by the Director of Public Instruction to introduce an improved system of cultivation has been doing his work quietly but effectively, in spite of lukewarm support from the class most benefited by his instructions.

The village of Tóppúr below Allai tank was fixed upon as the best place for commencing experiments, and a start was made with the cultivation of about five acres of paddy fields in three different ways—the local way of mudding, of ploughing, and of transplanting. In the first two the seed paddy was sown broadcast, in the last the plants were taken from a nursery and planted out in fields properly ploughed. No manure of any kind was used. I cannot give the results accurately, as I have since left Trincomalee, and the papers are not before me; but I know when the reports came in after the harvest the large outturn of the transplanted fields was something astonishing, and I verified it by personal inspection both before and after the reaping. The cultivators were thus given a practical proof of the benefits to be derived from improved cultivation—a lesson which, it is hoped, they will not be slow to take advantage of.

Further experiments were made in garden cultivation, for which a suitable patch of ground was selected and fenced in. There is room for improvement in the cultivation of fruit trees and vegetables, in both of which the District is lamentably wanting. The inhabitants content themselves with importing almost all their fruit from their more energetic neighbours at Jaffna.

C. A. MURRAY,
Assistant Government Agent.

Extracts from Diary.

January 17.—Again examined the country between the Pusumbukadavan (the river forming the spill of Kantalai) and the Perár, with the view of the proposed channel to the late Company's land and to Kiniyai. There are no natural obstacles, so far as I can ascertain, and the former channel at least should be constructed without delay. It would be a great encouragement to those who have already invested in part of the block granted to the late Company, and would conduce to the sale at remunerative prices of the land yet remaining. Where there is such a vast amount of water available, it seems a pity that there should be delay in utilising it advantageously.

February 7.—Sent in some suggestions on the subject of the Game and Elephant Ordinances. Perhaps the most effective check would be compulsory annual registration of guns. It has struck me since, that if the small fee which might be charged for this (and possibly some royalty on game shot by persons not holding a license, but within their village limits) were payable to the local headman, it might have some good effect. I think, too, that it would be well to give Gaṇsabháwas the power to deal with offences (or some offences) under the Game Ordinance. The headmen no doubt at present screen offenders and are often offenders themselves, but considering that they are unpaid, and that a prosecution not only makes them unpopular, but involves an indefinite amount of travelling to and from the court, with its consequent expense, with only a doubtful prospect of getting a proportion of the informer's share, this is scarcely to be wondered at.

February 21.—Walked to Teriyai by the village path, to inspect which, with the view of making it into a cart road, was a principal object of my trip. The whole distance is thirteen or fourteen miles, but of this three miles (from Maḍawachchi to Kiyulakadewu) are already rough cart road. I think the rest can be made so without much difficulty by the Gaṇsabháwa. For a mile or two from Kiyulakadewu little is required. There the road must be considerably widened, but the jungle is not heavy. There is a biggish stream half way (the Kunjikamban-áru), dry at present, but said to be impassable after heavy rain. To bridge this is of course a hopeless undertaking, but it only involves the road, otherwise much frequented even at present and very useful to the people, being unused for a few days in the year. Towards Teriyai a great portion of the road is already a cart road, rough of course in places, especially where it passes the two tracts of fields, but not requiring much further work. This was done (the path widened), I understand, as a relief work in 1879, when there was a famine in the coast villages. I am very much afraid that some relief will be required in these villages this year, as the paddy crops have almost totally failed for want of the usual rainfall in November and December. The pinch is not felt yet, as the people have some of last year's stock in hand, and are also working at the tobacco crop at Nilaveli and elsewhere; but a month or two hence I fear there will be great distress. In Koṭṭiyár pattu, too, except under Allai, the crops have failed entirely.

February 22.—I received to-day and read with great interest Mr. Parker's report on Padawiya (Paduvil). I had already been in correspondence with him on the subject, and indeed before I knew of his inspection and report. I had in view the possibility of irrigating the northern part of this District from the river flowing from the breach of Paduvil. It seems certain now that from the big dam Mr. Parker mentions, nine miles below the tank, a channel was sent to the land lying south and west of Kokulai, and I think a detailed examination will be well worth undertaking.

February 23.—Visited the ruins of the temple in the neighbourhood of Tiriyai, a meagre description of which is given in the printed return of Archæological Remains. This temple was evidently a place of importance. Some of the stonework is very elaborate. The ruins are at the top of a hill about 300 ft. high, from which a good view of the surrounding country is obtained. The principal building was of circular form, about 40 ft. in diameter, surrounded by two rows of pillars (stone) from 10 ft. to 12 ft. high, with carved capitals. The pillars are octagonal and very neatly finished; most of them are standing and are in perfect preservation. This building is surrounded with a coping of cut stone. In its neighbourhood are other smaller buildings of the same design, with less elaborate architecture. The main building is approached by four flights of steps planked on either side by stone elephants' heads. Several carved figures are lying about: one nude, except for some slight drapery across the chest, and the head of the figure is missing; one a man fully clothed, with apparently a weapon in his hand; and two children,—varying from 3 ft. in height to (in the case of the nude figure) almost life size. There is a stone bath 6 ft. by 3 ft. by 20 in. deep in perfect preservation. A rock water reservoir remains of a massively constructed well, &c. A stone was pointed out to me as having an inscription on it, but I could not make out any letters. At the foot of the hill are two artificial ponds. An elephant had been up there recently, steep as the approach is. Elk (sambur) had been there the night before, and we started one which was sleeping just below the temple. On the short cut we took down I found a pillar with the capital broken short off, and was informed that it was dropped when being taken to the Hindu temple at Tiriyai, many years ago by order of the then Vanniyá. No further attempts at depredations have since been made, I hear: indeed, the ruins are so massive and the population of the neigbbourhood so sparse, that they are safe enough from pilferers. I cannot find anyone who knows the history of these ruins.

March 3.—Went to Nilaveli. Sat with President in the Gaṇsabháwa. There were 54 cases for trial, nearly all civil—claims for paddy and money lent, &c. Almost without exception settlements were arrived at, or the parties were absent, having arranged matters themselves. There were six criminal cases, two of which were postponed in order to secure the attendance of witnesses; they had only been instituted two days before. Of the other four, two were struck off, the parties to them being absent; one (wrongfully tying cattle) was dismissed after evidence had been taken, it being clear that the cattle had actually trespassed, although no damage had been done; in the remaining case, a quarrel between two women, an amicable settlement was effected. On going through the rolls I found that some civil cases had been pending for too long a time—six months in one instance—and spoke to the President on the subject. Complaints (*i.e.*, fresh cases not on the trial roll) were heard both before and after dealing with the cases set down for trial. On the whole, the work seemed to be sensibly and well done, without undue technicality and formality. The President asked my advice on some points as to which he was in doubt, but seems to understand his business very fairly. There are very few appeals from his decisions.

March 10.—Inspected thoroughly Muttur channel, Peruweli tank (fed from Allai), &c., with Mr. Acland; fixed on the sites for the new distributing gates for Korakali and Samanturai, Mohamadu Moydin, the proprietor most interested, being present. Arranged for some small repairs which are necessary at points where there is leakage in the channel. At Tóppu held a number of inquiries having reference principally to the issue of water from Allai. The tank this year will barely (indeed, I am afraid, insufficiently) meet its requirements, and all the proprietors under it are keenly urging their individual interests. If only a channel could be made from the Mahawęli-gaṇga or one of its branches, by which water could be run into the tank during the south-west monsoon (when the river is flooded, although there is little or no local rain), the value of this great work would be immensely enhanced. I hope to be able before long to make a thorough examination of the intervening country with this view. But it will be a long and tedious business. There are vague rumours of an ancient channel, but I can get no definite information as to any traces of it having been actually seen.

March 12.—To Muttúr by Coast road. Sat in the Gaṇsabháwa. There were 55 cases for hearing, 16 criminal and 29 civil, nearly all either amicably settled or struck off from absence of parties. The guardian of Allai tank had a case against people for driving their buffaloes across the bund of Penwela tank. As it was shown that it was necessary for them either to do this or to go three miles round, it was settled that a fixed spot should be adhered to, at a place where no damage to the tank was likely to ensue, and that the cattle owners should from time to time effect any necessary repairs. My knowledge of the locality was useful to the President in deciding this matter. A postponement was asked for in a trivial case on account of the sickness of the complainant's child. By my advice the case was struck off, as it had already been once postponed and the people came from a distance The President seemed doubtful as to his powers in such cases. I could only tell him to use his common sense. There was nothing in this instance, assuming the report to be true, to show that the man's personal presence at his house was necessary. Walking back with the Vanniyá, he (the Vanniyá) told me that on the whole the Gaṇsabháwa was liked by the people as an institution, "but," he said, "there is much frivolous litigation: some women are even wicked enough to take out summons against their husbands for beating them!" On my observing that it did not appear to me to be altogether objectionable that there should be some check on husbands in this respect, he said that marital correction "in this country" was often necessary, although of course unknown to the higher civilisation of England! As he seemed to be in earnest, I did not think it necesssary to tell him that a perusal of English Police Court records might possibly change his views.

March 21.—Wrote on the subject of the impending scarcity in the Kattukulam pattu. It will be necessary—(1) To make advances of seed paddy. As to this, I think local irrigation funds (fines, &c., accumulated) will be sufficient, without it being necessary to ask for special aid from Government. (2) To start some relief work in the neighbourhood of the distressed villages. If the District Road Committee had any funds this would be a simple matter, but it is absolutely penniless. In the event of my recent application (as Chairman of the District Road Committee) for special assistance from Government not being favourably received, a grant will be required for this purpose. (3) To permit some extension of chena cultivation. Luckily neither the area nor the population to be dealt with is large.

March 23.—Visited Illakantai, Sampur, &c., returning to Muttur in the evening, a 20-mile walk. At Illakantai inspected the tank as to which representations had been made to me by the people and by the Vanniyá. This tank is well worth repair, but it is a work beyond the means of the villagers. The bund was originally about 12 ft. high, but is much worn in places. It is over a mile long. There are the remains of two ancient stone sluices, one of dressed stone with a bisókoṭuwa. There are several breaches in the bund, but none of much magnitude. These breaches are annually repaired by the villagers and about 60 acres of paddy are cultivated, usually yielding a fair crop. This year, however, the crop has failed owing to the abnormal drought. There are at least 150 acres more capable of cultivation if the tank is properly restored, and which were so cultivated formerly. This land has lapsed to the Crown, but will be readily purchased if the tank be repaired. The soil is fertile, there is a fair population at hand (Sampur, five miles distant, is a populous and flourishing village), and the work generally is one the undertaking of which I have no hesitation in strongly recommending. The people are willing to accept any reasonable terms as to cost of repayment, water-rate, &c. From the tank I went to the village Illakantai, about a mile distant, and was agreeably surprised to find little or none of the distress I had anticipated from the total failure of the paddy crop. Although not fishers by caste or trade, the people net a large quantity of fish from the sea, which is close at hand, for their own use. There are extensive plantations of cocoanuts, plantains, tobacco (said to be a good quality), &c. Plenty of water in the numerous wells. The village is partly inhabited by a civilised Veddáh community, who work for the Tamils. The President had recently fined five or six of these Veddáhs (nearly all these able-bodied males in fact) from Rs. 10 to Rs. 20 each for a part they had taken in a quarrel among themselves. They petitioned me on the subject, and as the fines struck me as being absurdly high, I took the opportunity of inquiring into the

whole matter on the spot. A woman was at the bottom of it, as usual. The circumstances were not such as to justify sending all the men to jail, and this is what the sentence amounts to: a small fine they can pay, but nothing approaching to that imposed. The sentence will be modified accordingly. I find that the whole of the proceedings have not been sent to me (there were some counter cases), and for the present have simply directed the President not to enforce the payment of the fines pending further instructions. These Veddáhs speak only Tamil, and are nominally Hindus. From Illakantai I went on to Sampur, where I breakfasted, and inquired into a number of small grievances, requests for roads, &c. Sampur is a remarkably flourishing village. There is a large natural "villu," or swamp, from which water is taken for cultivation of the adjoining fields by the "Etalai" system—*i. e.*, ladled out by a huge spoon by a simple mechanical process to a higher level. To Muthur, evening. At Sambukali the tract of 100 acres recently given to the man who had reclaimed it, at the upset price, the crop, though not good, was not an entire failure, as is the case nearly everywhere. The large tract at Kokkattiveli has entirely failed. The only place in the Kottiar pattu (except of course the lands under Allai) which has a different story to tell is Anativu (Kirankulam) near Ichchilampattai. There, thanks to a flood from the gaṇga at the time it was most useful, the crops are exceptionally good.

March 25.—Went to Kilivetti. Camped by the Hindu temple, a small and insignificant building on the site of what has apparently been a Siṇhalese vihára of some importance. Many of the stones of which the old building was composed are arranged in a circle round the huge bo-tree by the temple. Some of these stones are artistically carved.

March 26.—Inspected the tanks near Kilivetti (Tumbankulam and Kirankulam). Tumbankulam was once a fine work, but it is too late now to repair the neglect of ages. The bund has been worn down and weakened throughout, and its repair would be a very costly business. The bed of the tank is now cultivated annually, but this year the crop has failed. Kirankulam is in good order, but nearly empty. The small crop under it is ripening and water is being sent to it by "Etalai." (*Vide* notes of 23rd, Sampur.) It will, I think, be saved, but this is doubtful unless there is some rain before a week is over. Held some inquiries, &c. Recommended the appointment of a separate police vidáne for Kilivetti. It is too far from Malliativu for the police vidáne there to attend to it, as at present; and, moreover, the villagers being of better caste than the Malliativu men, do not obey him readily.

A principal object of my visit here was to examine the country along the line of the river which flows into Allai tank at Kilivetti, but my feet were so sore with continual walking, mostly in sand, that I could not do this thoroughly; nor had I time to stay. If some means could be found of running water into Allai from the Mahawęli-gaṇga, or of its branches, during the south-west monsoon, when the river is in flood though there is no local rain, the value of the tank would be immensely increased. (I see I noted this before, March 10.) I think the solution of this problem will be found at Kilivetti or in its neighbourhood. The scheme is certainly worth thorough investigation, even if nothing comes of it. The river at Kilivetti is a branch of the Mahawęli-gaṇga, and is said to leave it at the spot where the two great branches—the gaṇga and the Verukal—diverge. This is about sixteen miles from Kilivetti. At Kiliveti itself the river is a deep sluggish stream not affected by any but local rains. When the gaṇga is in flood the flood water is said to come within seven miles of Kilivetti and there, stopped by a large sand-bank, to flow to the Verukal by a channel, two miles or so above the bank. What the cost would be of cutting through this bank and making such works as would ensure the flood water or part of it passing into Allai, I am of course not in a position even to conjecture, but the scheme seems feasible.

April 1.—Kachchéri as usual. Went over the whole of the proceedings in the Veddáhs' case (referred to in my notes of the 23rd ultimo), and modified the fines imposed.

Note.—The Diary Extracts annexed to the Report of the Government Agent are those of Mr. F. C. Fisher, Acting Government Agent; those annexed to the Report of the Assistant Government Agent, Trincomalee, are from the Diary of Mr. C. E. D. Pennycuick for the first three months of 1887, previous to his departure on leave in April.

NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCE.

REVENUE ADMINISTRATION REPORT OF THE GOVERNMENT AGENT, NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCE, FOR 1887.

REVENUE.

IT is satisfactory to be able to report an increase, though not a very large one, in the revenue of the Province for 1887, instead of, as was the case in my last report, a decrease. The fall in the revenue which the figures for 1886 showed have not, however, been anything like made up, and this appears to be due to depression in the salt trade. I will however only deal with the figures for the Kurunégala District.

Land Sales.—Here there is a considerable increase, amounting to Rs. 16,472. The demand for land suitable for cocoanut plantation is daily increasing, both in the valley of the Maha-oya and elsewhere in the southern parts of the Seven Kóralés. Nor is this demand confined to native capitalists, and I have little doubt that during the current year I shall be able to sell as much land as ever the Survey Department can get ready for sale.

Paddy Rented, unfortunately, does not give so good a result, the falling off under this head being Rs. 37,207. This is due to failure of seasonable rain, and will be dealt with later on in referring to food supply.

Rents, exclusive of Land, show a slight improvement, due to the higher prices realised by the sale of toll rents.

Licenses.—Under this head there is a marked increase—Rs. 20,754—which is however abnormal, and not likely to be maintained. The price paid for the Seven Kóralés arrack rent was certainly in excess of its value, and was only realised through one of the incidents so common among competitors who have no confidence in each other's honesty of purpose.

Timber also shows a decrease of Rs. 3,863, due to restricted sales.

Reimbursements.—Survey fees gave an increase of Rs. 5,685 connected with land sales.

EXPENDITURE.

The expenditure calls for no remark. The proportion of expenditure to revenue is low.

I.—FOOD SUPPLY.

I append a return in the form which has been adopted in this Province since 1883 :—

	Paddy.				Fine Grain.				Available for Consumption.			Average Price.	
	Extent sown.		Crops.		Extent sown.		Crops.		Population.	Rice per head per annum.	Fine Grain per head per annum.	Rice per bushel.	Fine Grain per bushel.
	(a) Acres.	Bhls.	Fold.	Bhls.	(b) Acres.	Bhls.	Fold.	Bhls.				Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Węuḍawili Hatpattu ...	9,153	22,882	8	183,060	2,886	412	40	16,491	39,468	1·85	0·41	3 37½	1 0
Vanni Hatpattu ...	13,021	32,552	9 & 10	314,640	7,509	1,073	40	42,908	35,517	3·54	1 21	2 50	0 75
Déwamędi Hatpattu ...	9,866	24,665	9 & 10	236,550	4,630	661	30	19,540	33,325	2·83	0·58	3 50	1 0
Kaṭugampola Hatpattu...	7,922	19,805	8	158,040	12,840	1,834	40	73,371	41,249	1·53	1·77	3 0	1 0
Dambadeni Hatpattu ...	16,524	41,310	9	381,920	1,028	147	40	5,874	36,360	4 20	0·16	3 50	1 0
Hiriyala Hatpattu ...	7,877	19,692	8	157,540	4,286	612	30	18,368	30,790	2· 4	0·59	3 50	1 0

NOTES.—(a) 1 acre = 2½ bushels sowing extent. (b) 1 acre = 1 laha; 7 lahas = 1 bushel.
Data obtained from the annual statement of crop furnished to Government.

Consumption per head calculated as follows :—

Paddy.—Tithe and seed paddy,—1-10th each all round has been deducted from produce and half the balance reckoned as rice.

Fine Grain.—No deduction made.

I have, however, added a column this year showing the "fold" for each division, and notes showing how the results as to crop and food have been obtained.

A comparison with the return for 1886 will show that the production of food in the District has decreased everywhere except in the Vanni hatpattu. This is readily accounted for by an unfavourable season, and as the decrease did not make itself seriously felt anywhere but in the Hiriyala hatpattu, I should not lay much stress upon the fact if it did not afford a striking argument in support of the irrigation policy which has now for some years been steadily followed in the Vanni and Demala hatpattus. Later on I propose to deal more fully with this question. Here I will leave the fact, that the only divisions in which, notwithstanding an unfavourable season, the local food supply has not only not diminished but increased considerably, are those in which money has been spent upon irrigation, to speak for itself.

In the other divisions the reduction in the area sown with paddy and fine grain was considerable; but I am inclined to attribute this in some measure to the impetus which the opening of land for cocoanut cultivation has lately received, and which has forced a good deal of labour away from paddy cultivation. In the Hiriyala hatpattu, especially in the last months of the year, there was great scarcity of food and of seed paddy. The latter was supplied as fast as it could be got, and the people were offered, and readily accepted, the means of procuring the former by working on the minor roads of their division, for which a liberal grant was provided under the head of "Relief Work" by the Government. This is the poorest and most backward division in the Seven Kóralés, and I shall in another part of this report state the direction in which I consider that relief should be afforded to it.

II.—LEGISLATION.

With the exception of Buddhist temporalities, I do not consider that there is any subject which immediately requires legislation. This question has been under the consideration of Government for some time, and although it is beset with many difficulties I have hopes that something may be done which will have the effect of checking the shameful malversation of viháré and dewalé property which is now so prevalent.

III.—WORKS.

Apart from irrigation works, which will be found treated of elsewhere, I consider the restoration of the Tóppu bridge is the most important. This, however, is a work which is included in the list of the Western Province, and as I understand that the Hon. the Government Agent of Colombo has already pressed it upon the attention of Government, I will say no more than that its collapse has been a serious inconvenience and hardship to the people of the southern division of the Piṭigal kóralé south, many of whom find a market for their garden produce in Negombo and Kochchikaḍe, and whose profits are seriously affected by the delay and expense attendant upon the crossing of the Maha-oya in a ferry boat.

The Deḍuru-oya bridge is also one which it will be very gratifying to see constructed, but it would be a very costly work, and must, I fear, wait for more prosperous times.

The gradual improvement of the Akkarai pattu road is a very essential work, and I trust that it may be found possible to continue the grant in aid of it until its whole length has been made passable for carts.

As regards roads in the Kurunégala District, I wish to repeat what I said last year, and ask for attention to the Pádeniya, Giriulla, and Mádampé roads. I have made a special request that the minor road from the Giriulla bridge to Dankoṭuwa, on the old Nattanḍiya road, may be taken over as a principal road to enable the District Road Committee to open a road in the opposite direction from Giriulla to Alauwwa, six miles south of Polgahawela on the railway line. This road would open up a part of the District in which there is a considerable extent of very fine cocoanut land, and would, I feel sure, act as a feeder to the railway.

IV. and V.—ADMINISTRATIVE MEASURES—PUBLIC WORKS—PLANS FOR IMPROVEMENT OF PROVINCE.

Under this head I repeat what I said last year, and I repeat it with more confidence now that the work has been partly examined:—"Chief among these is the scheme for the diversion of the waters of the Deḍuru-oya into a channel which shall serve the Hiriyala hatpattu and the tanks of the Vanni and Demala hatpattus." I will not anticipate the report which, I believe, Mr. Parker will find himself in a position to submit before the Legislative Council resumes its usual session in September or October; but taking it for granted, as I do, that he will report favourably of the scheme as likely to furnish a sufficient volume of water, and to give such a return as will recommend it financially to the Government and the Legislative Council, I will venture to observe that it is a scheme of irrigation which differs in some very material points from any other which I know of as having been undertaken in this Colony. In the first place, it is not vital to its success that it should attract population: the population is on the spot. In the next place, it is not intended that the scheme shall serve land which may or may not be taken up. There are at this moment 30,000 acres of paddy land, beginning at the proposed headworks and lying along the course of the channel, of which 20,000 are cultivated whenever there is a favourable season. The other 10,000 acres have fallen out of cultivation because the tanks under which they lie do not fill; but they would be brought under cultivation again at once if a certain supply of water could be made available. Lastly, the scheme would begin to give a return directly that the headworks and the first section of the channel are completed, and this return would increase with every succeeding few miles of channel. Much has been written and said as to the injustice of making "Will it pay?" the chief if not the only test to be applied to irrigation works intended for the general advancement of outlying and hitherto neglected agricultural districts; and I do not know that I can profitably add much to a controversy in which are engaged on the one side those who see under their own eyes the practical benefits which are daily accruing to the people from irrigation, and, on the other, those who criticise it from a distance without any local knowledge or experience, and often in a hostile spirit, because they choose to believe (or say they believe) that irrigation is a "fad" of Governors and Revenue Officers in search of a spurious reputation for tender care of native interests. I may however remark that it is too early yet to apply the financial test to any irrigation work in Ceylon, except, perhaps, to Rúkam and one or two others in

the Eastern Province. In India, where vast irrigation schemes, by the side of which our largest works sink into insignificance, have been undertaken; financial results are not looked for inside of twenty to twenty-five years, while in Ceylon a work like Kaláwęwa is expected to convert a large tract of jungle into a field of waving corn almost before it has been completed.

The difficulty of getting the Siṇhalese to migrate has admittedly not yet been overcome; but as they grow more prosperous—which they must do when better means of cultivation are placed within their reach by improving their tanks and filling them through such works as the Yóda-ęla—they will multiply more than they now do, and a congested population must some day seek an outlet from the villages which now only contain enough hands to cultivate the ancestral fields. Some idea of what village irrigation is doing may be formed from the following fact. In 1883 the quantity of rice per head produced in the Vanni hatpattu was 1·5 bushel, in 1886 it was 2·8, and in 1887 (after an unfavourable season) it was 3·54! So that in five years, during which an "irrigation policy" has been steadily pursued, the staple food of the inhabitants of the irrigated district has been more than trebled. The financial result of the policy to which this very satisfactory economic result is due was fully and forcibly stated in the last Message of His Excellency the Governor to the Legislative Council, wherein it was shown how much the additional revenue from paddy exceeded the legitimate returns upon such expenditure as had been incurred to enable the people to increase their crops; and it was also shown that the value of the work contributed by the people themselves was greatly in excess of the sums expended by Government. Surely no small benefit has been conferred upon the State as well as upon the people themselves, if the spirit of sloth and apathy, which has so long been a reproach to these people, is being gradually but surely expelled! The process of improvement is a slow one, and this is why the advocates of irrigation are open to the somewhat ungenerous reproach of crying up the altered condition of the people at the same time that they plead for more assistance for them. Revenue officers and some others know how much better off the people of the North-Central Province and of other parts are than they were ten years ago: but they also know how much worse off they still are than their brethren in localities more favoured by nature, and they therefore urge the Government not to go back from a good work well begun, merely because some of the very worst evils under which the sufferers groaned have been mitigated, and because a population debased by generations of neglect does not at once rise to a condition of independence. The Vanni hatpattu has greatly improved already; the Demala hatpattu, as recorded in my Assistant's report on the Puttalam District, is improving; and it only remains to take in hand the Hiriyala hatpattu, which, as I stated in my last Administration Report, is now the worst in the Seven Kóralés. Since I wrote that report I have seen a good deal of this division, and am satisfied that the "village tanks scheme" will not do it much good. The tanks are deficient both in storage capacity and watershed, and nothing will serve the large extent of land available for cultivation but the Dęduru-oya channel. Nevertheless, the work of clearing the bunds has been begun, and as soon as I am assured that the Dęduru-oya scheme will be undertaken the improvement of the tanks will be proceeded with.

VI.—GRAIN TAX ORDINANCE.

This is not in force in this Province.

VII.—SANITARY CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

There was an outbreak of fever in most of the divisions at the usual season (April and May), and it was found necessary to detach special medical officers for duty at Polgahawela, Nárammala, Węuḍa, and Kúliyapiṭiya. The people readily availed themselves of their services, and the outbreak was soon repressed. In this connection I beg to repeat what I wrote last year:—

> The means within the reach of the people for obtaining treatment for sickness are confined to the General Civil Hospital in the town of Kurunęgala, to which the inhabitants of remote villages cannot have recourse, and they therefore depend entirely upon the treatment of native vedarálas. The Principal Civil Medical Officer had under consideration a plan for the establishment of rural dispensaries throughout the Kurunęgala District, and I would earnestly recommend this to the serious consideration of Government.

A short table of vital statistics is annexed:—

	1886.				1887.			
	Marriages.		Births.	Deaths.	Marriages.		Births.	Deaths.
	Kandyan.	General.			Kandyan.	General.		
Węuḍawili Hatpattu ...	952	38	1,267	1,120	131	32	1,754	1,376
Hiriyala do. ...	929	6	1,184	791	157	5	1,365	936
Wanni do. ...	1,111	5	1,561	1,129	361	2	1,584	1,179
Déwamędi do. ...	1,122	3	1,286	914	327	3	1,599	1,119
Kaṭugampola do. ...	934	53	1,331	757	253	53	1,273	1,202
Dambadeni do. ...	1,246	61	1,749	1,152	176	18	1,882	1,887
Total ...	6,294	166	8,378	5,863	1,405	113	9,457	7,699

VIII.—CRIME.

Several bad murders were committed during the year, the perpetrators being tried, convicted, and hanged. The use of the knife and of other lethal weapons is lamentably prevalent in the two divisions which march with the Western Province—*i.e.*, Dambadęni and Katugampola—which are infested with the worst type of low-country Siṇhalese. Deeds of violence are of almost weekly occurrence, arising generally out of an ordinary quarrel, at the end of which one or other party draws a knife from his waist, and, without actually intending to commit murder, inflicts a fatal wound. It is certainly worthy of consideration whether the universal carrying of an open knife, should not be interfered with.

I had to write last year very strongly on the prevalence of cattle-stealing in the Seven Kóralés and in response to my repeated representations an Ordinance was passed providing for the appointment of a Provincial Magistrate with special punitive powers. The result has been most satisfactory. Many of the habitual cattle-stealers have been dealt with, and isolated offences are becoming very rare. Speedy investigation of complaints at convenient centres and the infliction of lashes in public, near where the offence has been committed, have had an effect which nothing else would have produced, and it is probable that in a few months the offence of cattle-stealing will be unknown in the Seven Kóralés. This, however, will only last so long as the Magistrate continues in the Province and retains his special powers. Mr. Lee's great ability and experience as a judicial officer and his wise administration of the powers conferred on him have created a feeling of satisfaction throughout the District (except among cattle-stealers and dishonest headmen); but it is a question for the consideration of Government whether the work so well begun by him could not be carried on at a less cost than is involved in his retention. I have, in a special report, made a recommendation on this subject, which I need not repeat here. I wish, however, to reiterate my profound conviction that cattle-stealing will be as prevalent as ever if the Province is left without a special magistrate clothed with all the powers now possessed by Mr. Lee.

X.—DISEASE AMONG CATTLE.

This did not appear anywhere except in the Vanni hatpattu, the Raṭémahatmayá of which division has furnished a report which I take over *verbatim* :—

Cattle murrain prevailed in the Magulótaṭa and Magulmędagandahe kóralés east and west and Gantihe kóralés during last year. The disease was communicated originally to the Magulmędagandahe kóralé east by a man who had brought in some head of cattle from the Puttalam District, which were evidently infected. Few of the animals thus brought in seemed to have died shortly after, and though some cattle of the villagers had been infected subsequently, the matter was not reported to me by the late kórála until I casually heard of the outbreak—almost a month after, when the disease had fairly settled—and adopted every possible precaution to check its spread. My endeavours proved successful for a time, but some of the minor headmen having again neglected their duty (for which they were since fined on an inquiry into a report I had made against them), the disease spread over to the adjoining kóralés I have mentioned, and all infected cattle are since promptly removed to the hospital pounds, where they are treated and attended to by the owners themselves; and the villages where the disease prevails are all fenced round with a view to securing a proper segregation of the cattle, and preventing their going over to the infected villages and thereby communicating the infection. Unlike previous years the disease has not been of a very malignant nature except only during such times of the year that there had been rain, and the people have consequently been able to save more than half the number of cattle that were infected, as the statement which I beg to subjoin will show :—

	Infected.	Died.	Recovered.
Total number of black cattle infected ...	94 ...	38 ...	56
Total number of buffalo cattle infected ...	326 ...	106 ...	220
Total ...	420	144	276

The disease has disappeared in the Magulótaṭa and Magulmędagandahe kóralé east since this year, but has recently spread over to the Pahalavisideke kóralé, which, I regret to submit, is likewise owing to neglect on the part of headmen to observe strict and proper segregation. I have made a report in this connection against the kórála and kóralé árachchi of Gantihe kóralé, and the matter is fixed for inquiry at the kachchéri on the next division day, the 9th instant.

As a precautionary step against the spread of the disease, the kóralé wherein the outbreak occurs is then and there proclaimed under quarantine, which restricts the headmen from executing cattle sale vouchers and prevents the removal of cattle out of the kóralé; and the burial of carcases is also enforced immediately after the death of an animal; and in the case of dead animals which the owners might be found to have neglected, the headmen have instructions to bury such animals and report the matter to me, when such owners are prosecuted before the Gaṇsabháwa where, they are both punished, and the expenses incurred by headmen recovered from them.

It will be seen from the statement attached to the Raṭémahatmayá's report that the percentage of deaths was large; but it was insignificant compared with that shown in previous outbreaks.

XI.—NEW AREAS OF CULTIVATION.

A considerable extent of land (probably 1,500 acres) has been opened up for cocoanut plantations, principally in the Węṇḍawili hatpattu and in the valley of the Maha-oya. Tea has been planted on some of the estates under European management, and is, I understand, doing well. A syndicate was formed for the cultivation of tobacco on a very large scale, but no land was actually brought under cultivation during last year.

XII.—WORK OTHER THAN ROUTINE.

Much of my time has been occupied in investigations connected with the results likely to be obtained from the construction of the Ḍeduru-oya anicut and channel; in visiting other irrigation works in the Vanni hatpattu; selecting tanks to be sluiced and hastening the progress of villagers' earthwork; in correspondence with the Conservator of Forests; and in the preparation of lands for sale. Regarding the first of these, I wish to reserve what I have to say until Mr. Parker's report is ready, and the second calls for no special remarks beyond what I have already embodied in this report. The amount of earthwork done in the Vanni and Demala hatpattus during 1887 was 156,252 cubes, the value of which is Rs. 78,126. In the Vanni hatpattu there are no arrears worth speaking of beyond 1887. Two years ago the arrears went as far back as 1883.

As regards forest work, it appears to me that forest conservation, within the proper meaning of the term, has been at last preferred to wasteful trade in timber, and that the mere gathering in of revenue is about to be subordinated to a wise and enlightened administration of the valuable property of which the Government is the trustee. The reorganisation of the Forest Department as regards its *personnel* and as regards the lines upon, and the cost at, which it is to be worked must be a matter of time, and I am content to think that certain principles, which have long commended themselves to more than one revenue officer of experience—*e. g.*, that revenue is not the first and only consideration; that such revenue as is to be collected should be collected as a whole from the Island, the felling operations in each Province being regulated by the stocks in others and by the

price obtainable in the market, instead of each Province competing with the others for larger sales and more revenue; and that reafforestation and demarcation are important branches of forest work—I am content, I say, to think that these principles are admitted to be sound and that they will influence the future policy of Government. I trust, however, that as reorganisation proceeds it will be found possible to transfer much of the office work of the Forest Department from the Government Agents to the Conservator of Forests. Kachchéri establishments are already overburdened, and the additional clerical work connected with the Forest Department is daily increasing. Except as consultative colleagues of the Conservator of Forests, I cannot see why, when the Forest Department is in working order, the Government Agents should have anything to do with it. Whenever the experience and advice of the Government Agents can be of any use to the Conservator of Forests they should be, and of course will be, readily given to him, and on general questions of policy it is to be hoped that the Government Agents will always be afforded an opportunity of expressing their opinions; but the financial details of the Department and the arrangements for felling, transport, and sale of timber should be taken over entirely by the Conservator. The actual guarding of reserved forests should also be in the hands of the Forest Department. Subordinate headmen cannot be trusted to do this work, nor is it compatible with the proper discharge of their other duties. In my opinion the reserved forests should be as extensive as possible, but not too numerous. The fact of their being reserved should imply that they are, or can be made, really valuable; and if this is the case their protection can only be secured by clear demarcation, by the expenditure of some money upon rangers and guardians, and by the rigid exclusion from them of all but Forest Officers and their subordinates and workmen. There are Crown forests which are at present not worth conserving to this extent (though the wanton destruction of timber in them should be prevented as far as possible), and these might be left in charge of the Government Agents; the Forest Officers visiting and reporting on them periodically to the Conservator, who would forward these reports to the Government Agents. Facilities must be afforded to the people of outlying districts for getting such timber as they require for building, making carts, and so on; and the too rigorous enforcement of harassing regulations connected with the supply of timber which, though it has a value, is not marketable and is a necessity to the people, drives the latter to commit thefts and depredations which, if their actual wants could be readily supplied, they would abstain from.

P. A. TEMPLER,
Government Agent.

ANNEXURE.

Report of the FORESTER, North-Western Province, for 1887.

THE annexed yearly timber return shows the financial operation of the Forest Department, North-Western Province, for the year 1887; the results being, total receipts, Rs. 20,273·81; total expenditure, including salaries of the Forester's establishment, Rs. 15,268·77. This gives a profit of Rs. 5,004·04 on an outlay of Rs. 15,268·23, or nearly 34 per cent.

To show what the actual return is on the working expenditure, the salaries of the Forester's establishment should be deducted, when the rate of profit is raised to 100 per cent.

In addition to these figures the timber lying in depôt is valued at Rs. 10,080·19, and the amount of arrears due from Public Departments is Rs. 156·50. The whole year's operations show a fair percentage of profit, though not so good as last year.

I attribute the falling off in the timber revenue to various reasons. During the last four years the felling of timber has been almost entirely confined to the Puttalam District for the felling of satinwood, where the timber generally sold most readily; in fact, the vote allowed has never been large enough to fell sufficient timber to meet the large demands made by various traders from Colombo and India. The quantity of timber now kept in depôt is so small that traders are giving up coming to Puttalam for timber. This year the vote apportioned to Puttalam District was very considerably reduced, as it was considered necessary to start a timber depôt in Kurunégala. The depôt was stocked with a number of palu, yawaranai, jak, kumbuk, &c., but very few logs had been sold on December 31, 1887.

The felling of timber in the Kurunégala District is far more expensive than in the Puttalam District, there being no good forests anywhere near to the Kurunégala town, the result being that only a very few logs could be brought in on the vote apportioned. In the Puttalam District operations were not entirely confined to the felling of first-class satin as has been usual in previous years; consequently the inferior logs had to be sold at a lower rate.

PUTTALAM DISTRICT.

The vote apportioned to this District for the felling of timber was Rs. 6,498·26. From this sum the salary of the clerk, depôt-keepers, &c., had to be deducted, so that the actual sum left for the felling of timber was very small indeed.

The prices obtained for good satinwood during this year compare very favourably with those obtained in previous years, the average rate obtained per cubic foot being 98 cents, while the rate last year was 91 cents. A large number of satin branches and inferior satin logs removed from the village forest reserve sold at 40 cents per cubic foot.

The prices obtained for halmilla averaged 75 cents per cubic foot, whilst last year the average rate was 70 cents per cubic foot. At one time of the year the demand for halmilla was very great, and very good prices would have been obtained, but unfortunately the apportionment was too small to allow of any being felled then.

The price of palu has also improved, 70 cents per cubic foot being the rate obtained, whilst last year 65 cents was the average.

Only a very few yawarnai trees now felled. The price obtained was the same as last year, viz., 60 cents per cubic foot.

It will be seen that the rates obtained for satin, halmilla, and palu during this year are really the highest ever yet obtained, and had the stock of timber in hand been large enough to meet the demand, the revenue would have been the highest one yet obtained.

TEAK PLANTATION.

The teak plantation still continues to do well. I thinned out one block of four acres which had been planted 6 ft. by 6 ft. The trees cut out sold for Rs. 300. My baggage coolies did a good deal of work during the year in weeding and pruning the trees.

KURUNÉGALA DISTRICT.

The vote apportioned to this District for the felling of timber and restoring of the Talipot Gardens at Galatara was Rs. 3,474·75.

This is the first time for many years that a timber depôt has been started in Kurunégala. Many years ago a depôt was started, but no sale could be obtained for the timber. It was not compulsory then, as it is now, for the Public Works Department to buy their timber from the Forest Department. The depôt is now stocked with palu, jak, kumbuk, yawaranai, milla, halmilla, and a few satinwood logs. The Public Works Department have already used a large quantity of timber.

ROYAL TALIPOT GARDENS.

The Royal Talipot Gardens are situated about two miles north of Alauwwa ferry between the villages Kadumulla and Galatara Gaulagama in the valley between Míragalkandemukalána and Habitikawamukalána. These are the gardens from which the Kandyan kings used to get their talipots, mats, &c. Most of them are now overgrown with high jungle. During the year I cleared about 30 acres, and the young talipot trees have already grown very considerably since they have received attention. More land will probably be cleared during next year.

FURTHER REMARKS.

It had been my intention to have gone over the Province during this year and inspected carefully the various forests and reported on them; but, unfortunately, I met with a carriage accident and seriously injured my knee, from which I have not yet quite recovered. I hope before long to be able to send in a report on the resources of the various forests throughout this Province.

Puttalam, May 1, 1888.

H. F. C. FYERS,
Acting Forester.

Receipts and Expenditure on account of Timber in the North-Western Province for 1887.

RECEIPTS.	Amount. Rs.	c.
Puttalam.		
Arrears recovered on account of timber sold in previous year	493	60
Recovered on account of satin and other logs sold to Public Departments ...	2,744	8
Do. do. to private parties...	11,045	98
of sawn timber sold to Public Departments ...	469	19
Do. do. to private parties...	119	80
of small timber sold to Public Departments ...	285	36
Do. do. to private parties...	393	92
Do. Teak sold to Public Departments ...	16	20
Do. do. to private parties...	186	55
Do. do. confiscated timber sold ...	109	43
Do. do. royalty on timber...	2,128	4
Do. do. on firewood	22	88
Kurunégala.		
Amount recovered on account of kumbuk and other logs sold to Public Departments	836	80
Do. do. small timber do.	37	92
Do. do. to private parties...	57	86
Do. do. royalty on timber...	1,325	20
Amount due on account of timber sold to Public Departments	156	50
Estimated value of timber in hand on December 31 lying in Government Depôts:		
Puttalam	5,115	20
Kurunégala ...	4,111	72
Chilaw	738	43
Waikkal	65	49
Kalpitiya	49	35
Total ...	30,509	50

EXPENDITURE.	Amount. Rs.	c.
Puttalam.		
Pay of Forester from January to December	3,000	0
Travelling allowance of Forester from January to December	500	0
Pay of Forester's staff	1,645	70
Pay of clerk	150	0
Amount paid for felling and transport of timber	5,449	49
Do. sawing timber ...	49	11
Pay of clerk, depôt-keeper, and allowance to Udaiyar	576	0
Amount paid for transporting timber to Chilaw	186	30
Do. rolling and piling logs ...	106	98
Do. value of stationery, stores, &c.	56	45
Do. filing records from January to December ...	30	0
Do. miscellaneous charges ...	43	93
Kurunégala.		
Amount paid for felling and transport of timber	2,993	42
Pay of depôt-keeper	45	42
Amount paid for advertisement charges ...	53	33
Do. clearing the Talipot Gardens	356	0
Do. miscellaneous charges ...	16	58
Amount in favour of Forest Department on actual transactions	15,084	23
Amount of arrears to be recovered ...	156	50
Total ...	30,509	50

REPORT ON THE PUTTALAM DISTRICT FOR 1887.

(Area of District, 1,184½ square miles; population, 80,985.)

THIS being the last report which will be written regarding the combined Puttalam-Chilaw District, it will not be out of place if I briefly review the progress made in the District from time to time.

This District is perhaps more fully treated of than any other in Casie Chetty's "Gazetteer," which was written about 1828, and the contrast between the condition of the District as therein described and its present condition is most marked. This is not a District in which the change has been brought about by the much vaunted "European enterprise." It is a purely native District, and the progress made has been in native products; but it shows how rapidly a native District may be improved under a firm and fostering Government.

In 1828 the canal was referred to as "the new canal," portions of which were not yet complete. Since then many improvements have been made by the cutting of short and direct channels, and the waterway thoughout is now complete, though by no means perfect.

At that time the only road into the District was the old Dutch track along the seashore; and the wonder is how carts were taken at all through the heavy sand. Even as late as ten to fifteen years ago the diaries of the various Assistant Agents show how difficult it was to get about the country. Now, there is an excellent trunk road from Colombo to Puttalam and another from Puttalam to Kurunégala, and the whole of the southern part of the District is intersected by good roads running east and west, north and south.

Cocoanut cultivation was then spoken of as quite a rare thing. There were good "groves" of this palm in Kalpitiya and Akkarai pattu, but apparently there was very little in Puttalam pattu, none in Demala hatpattu, Anawulundan pattu, Munnesseram pattu, or Otarapaláta, and only occasional plantations at Chilaw, Mádampé, and Máráwila. Now there are no less than 64,316 acres under cocoanuts. Almost the whole of the Pitigal kóralé south is under cultivation, and estates are now springing up in the Pitigal kóralé north and all along the line of road from Chilaw to Puttalam. Even paddy cultivation seems to have extended: the produce is given by Casie Chetty as 20,062 parahs = 13,374 bushels. Last year it was about 240,000 bushels. Meanwhile the population has risen from 29,739 in 1828 to 77,854 in 1881; and since the census was taken the population must have increased most rapidly, as evidenced by the returns of the division officers. In 1828 the salt revenue amounted to £2,400. In 1887 it was Rs. 553,164·47.

In 1828 Mr. Casie Chetty writes of Puttalam Town:—"There being no good water, the inhabitants have no alternative but to use brackish water which the many wells in the place supply, or proceed to the adjacent villages to fetch water." Now there is an unfailing supply of good fresh water brought by means of pipes from Chenakudirippu.

In 1828 the town was described as "consisting of a few hundreds of small houses constructed of mud and thatched with olahs." Now there must be upwards of 200 houses and boutiques built of brick and roofed with tiles, and throughout the southern portion of the District there are now hundreds of tiled houses replacing the mud and cadjan houses of the lately enriched villagers.

In the short period during which I have been in the District I can point with some pride to material progress. No less than 15,000 acres of land have been brought under cocoanut cultivation, while the following works have been executed by Government:—

(1) The six miles of road between Rájakadaluwa and Battulu-oya have been raised and gravelled, thus completing the line of road from Puttalam to Colombo.

(2) Mahauswęwa in Demala hatpattu has been restored, and over 200 acres of irrigable land (sold last year) are now being brought under cultivation.

(3) Tinipitiyawęwa at Mádampé, which was a standing disgrace to the District and a constant source of complaint on the part of the villagers, has now been rendered serviceable, with the result that the annual outturn of paddy now amounts to about 20,000 bushels, the tithe selling in 1887 for Rs. 1,500 and in 1888 for Rs. 1,700 for the single tract of fields irrigated by this tank.

(4) The Kompasupára, the old Dutch boundary road between the Dutch provinces and the Kandyan district, has been opened from Vilattuwa to Singakkuliya, a distance of over 20 miles; and other minor roads have been opened.

(5) Upwards of twenty village tanks in Demala hatpattu have been sluiced, and the bunds of a hundred others put into repair.

During the four years of my administration the average revenue has been Rs. 858,662·58 per annum, a figure which was never reached till 1884.

Whereas famines used periodically to visit the District, the long drought of 1887, followed by an equally serious one in the early months of 1888, seems to have passed away without a single case of distress being reported; while in the southern portion of the District the substantial brick and tile houses, which are every day springing up to replace the old mud and cadjan huts, tell of the increasing wealth and prosperity of the villagers.

REVENUE.

The revenue of the District shows an increase of Rs. 10,357·76 when compared with that of 1886, an increase which arises chiefly from the *Arrack Revenue*, which is credited in the Provincial kachchéri.

The increase in the *Arrack Revenue* is a remarkable sign of prosperity in the District and is supported by other signs of progress which I shall refer to hereafter. But apart from this, the revenue credited in the Puttalam kachchéri shows a small increase, and that in the most satisfactory direction; for, in spite of the long drought, the *Land Revenue* shows an increase of Rs. 1,552, and

Rents, which imply increased traffic on the roads, show an increase of Rs. 836. These are the particular heads of revenue which more than others point to the prosperity or the reverse of a District.

Annexed will be found a comparative statement of the revenue for 1886 and 1887 :—

Heads of Revenue.	1886.		1887.		Increase.		Decrease.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Arrears of Revenue	2,168	13	1,161	70	—		1,006	43
Customs	1,680	47	1,218	29	—		462	18
Port and Harbour Dues ...	368	58	326	88	—		41	70
Land Sales	48,154	97	50,794	17	2,639	20	—	
Land Revenue	17,767	54	19,319	74	1,552	20	—	
Rents, exclusive of Land ..	20,436	97	21,273	8	836	11	—	
Licenses	275	75	231	50	—		44	25
Stamps	34,227	41	30,907	65	—		3,319	76
Postal	167	45	227	19	59	74	—	
Fines and Forfeitures	3,302	74	2,306	86	—		995	88
Sale of Government Property ...	579,082	77	571,574	22	—		7,508	55
Reimbursements	9,860	56	11,872	36	2,011	80	—	
Interest	145	76	122	24	—		23	52
Miscellaneous	1,560	2	7,999	87	6,439	85	—	
Special Receipts	1,274	0	1,435	26	161	26	—	
Collected at Kurunegala on account of the Puttalam District.	720,473	12	720,771	1	13,700	16	13,402	27
Arrears of Revenue	8,271	15	3,015	68	—		5,255	47
Licenses	81,992	78	97,939	82	15,947	4	—	
Interest	798	21	166	51	—		631	70
Total ...	811,535	26	821,893	2	29,647	20	19,289	44
				Deduct Decrease ...	19,289	44		
				Net Increase ...	10,357	76		

The first three items in this statement show a decrease : the first *(Arrears of Revenue)* points to the prompt recovery of revenue in the preceding year, the two next *(Customs* and *Port Dues)* being small and causal.

Land Sales show an improvement, due to the receipt of more plans during the year. There is still a good demand for land and the sales depend on the extent of lands surveyed. The average revenue from Land Sales prior to 1884 was only Rs. 17,712·83, when the revenue from this source took a sudden leap to Rs. 141,299·25 in 1884 and Rs. 105,926·70 in 1885 ; but of course these figures were exceptional, and my estimate for 1887 was only Rs. 45,000, which has been more than realised. The improvement of the Land Sale Revenue entails the increase which appears under *Reimbursements* (Survey Fees) and *Special Receipts* (fees for title deeds).

Land Revenue shows an increase of Rs. 1,552·20, which is very satisfactory, as from all accounts the crops have fallen short throughout the Island owing to the prolonged drought. Yet in this District, where perhaps the drought was as strongly felt as in any part of the Island, the Paddy Revenue is larger than it has been since 1879. This I have no hesitation in ascribing to the improvements in irrigation works. The paddy rent of the Mádampé fields realised Rs. 1,500 and that of the Kumbukwanyáya tract realised Rs. 380. Both these tracts of fields receive their water from the Kadupiṭiya-oya, the former through the Tinipiṭiya tank and the latter from inlets in the bund higher up the stream; and the vast improvement in the crops is due to the irrigation works lately carried out near the tank.

For the yala harvest the rent sales realised a larger sum in the impoverished district of Demala hatpattu than they have realised since 1878, and this no doubt is due to the restoration of the small village tanks. I was lately on circuit in this district, and was much struck by the excellent crops standing in the paddy fields and the improved condition of the villagers. Now, it must be remembered that the conditions of this year have been precisely the same as those of 1884 ; if anything, the drought was more severe and more prolonged. In that year it was necessary to establish relief works to keep the people from absolute starvation, and not a single grain of paddy was raised for the yala harvest. This year there has been no sign of want, and the crops for the yala harvest must have exceeded 18,000 bushels.

Another item under *Land Revenue* is the Rent of Crown Lands leased for the cultivation of cocoanuts. The charge is only 25 cents per acre, but the revenue amounts to Rs. 709 against Rs. 406 in 1886.

Licenses show the large increase of Rs. 15,947·04, collected in the Kurunégala kachchéri, on account of the arrack farm of this District, the small revenue collected in Puttalam being merely for opium, the retail of spirituous liquors, and the chank fishery. No head of revenue marks more clearly the prosperity of a District than the arrack revenue, and for this reason the increase is very satisfactory.

Rents, exclusive of Land, show an increase of Rs. 836·11, indicating an increased cart traffic on the roads arising from the extension of cocoanut cultivation. This is borne out by the increase in the number of cart licenses issued in 1887, which has risen from 1,238 in 1885 to 1,307 in 1886 and 1,336 in 1887.

Stamps have shown a steady falling off ever since the introduction of the last Stamp Ordinance ; but the decrease of Rs. 3,320·26 this year is to a great extent due to the knowledge that it had been arranged that a District Court should be established in Puttalam. Suitors in Kalpiṭiya

and the Akkarai pattus preferred, therefore, to delay the institution of their suits so as to gain the greater convenience of coming to Puttalam for the hearing of their cases. It is probable, therefore, that the year 1888 may show an increase under this head.

Postal shows a trifling increase, while *Fines and Forfeitures* show a decrease of nearly Rs. 1,000. Whether or not this means less crime, it is hard to say.

Sale of Government Property shows a considerable decrease, amounting to Rs. 7,508·55, of which Rs. 5,226 is on account of salt and Rs. 2,215 is on account of timber.

As regards salt, it must be remembered that 17,680 cwt., valued at Rs. 41,724·80, were sent out of the District for sale in the Northern Province, for which no credit was given to this District; so that our own salt sold at Mannár entered into competition with the salt sold at Kalpiṭiya. Secondly, 1,558 cwt. of salt were sold at Udappa for fish-curing at the reduced price of Re. 1 per cwt. The same salt sold at Puttalam would have realised Rs. 3,676·80, which accounts for a decrease of Rs. 2,118·80. And thirdly, the salt revenue rises and falls with the number of immigrant coolies in the Island. In the prosperous years of the coffee enterprise the large number of coolies consumed a very great quantity of salt, and the revenue from salt rose in this District to Rs. 645,056·44 in 1878. The immigration returns of 1886 show that there was a steady decrease of the immigrant population throughout the year, so that at the close of the year there were 45,250 departures against 39,912 arrivals, or a loss of 5,338 souls. The same decrease continued up to March, 1887, when the tide began to turn. At the end of March there had been 15,700 departures against 8,654 arrivals, making a further loss of 7,046 persons, which, added to the loss in 1886, makes a decrease in the immigrant population of 12,884. As can easily be understood, such a large falling off must make a serious impression both on the imports of rice and the sale of salt. Since March, however, the immigrant population has been steadily increasing, and, though there is not yet any sign of improvement in the salt revenue, I hope it may be seen before the close of the present year. The number of immigrants increased in 1887 by 17,539, and I have no doubt that we shall soon see an increase in the sale of salt.

The decrease in the sales of timber is merely due to the transfer of a large portion of the vote for timber-felling to the Kurunégala District, and I presume that an increase in revenue from timber will be shown in the returns at Kurunégala. The depôt at Puttalam is almost empty, the Forester is constantly away, and unless new arrangements are made, and a large vote allowed, the sales at Puttalam will come to an end.

Reimbursements and *Special Receipts* show an increase of Rs. 2,011·80 and Rs. 161·26, resulting from increased land sales.

Interest shows a trifling decrease.

The increase under *Miscellaneous*, though large, is only casual, being due to the transfer to revenue of old deposits.

On the whole, the revenue is satisfactory, and is beaten only by the revenue of the years 1878, 1880, 1884, and 1885, and it is far in advance of the average of any quinquennial period up to 1885.

EXPENDITURE.

The expenditure for 1886 shows an increase of Rs. 36,354·02, the whole increase arising from the large expenditure on salt entailed by the large collection during the year.

As soon as the harvest is over half the value of the estimated collection is paid to the manufacturers, and this alone amounts on the two collections of 1887 to a sum of Rs. 67,520.

The fine collection will, however, render unnecessary any collection in 1888, when the expenditure will be much reduced.

SALT.

The improvement which I noticed last year in the working of the Salt Department has continued during 1887. All work is carried on smoothly, and there is no friction with the manufacturers. The period has been one of transition between the old system and the new, and the issues have been those of salt long stored, some in the pans and some in the fort and model stores.

From the end of April of the current year I hope the new system of centralisation may be in full working order. No salt has been stored at the pans for more than a year, and the remainder of the salt stored at the pans will soon have been sold off. I have just entered into a contract for the transport and weighing of the salt collected in 1887 at a rate far lower that I anticipated; and the increase in the cost of storing salt in the depôts over the cost of salt stored at the pans will not be great, and will be more than covered by the increase of 10 cents in the selling price sanctioned by Government. It should be noted that this increase should make little or no difference in the selling rates in Colombo, for the boatmen had formerly to pay Rs. 7·50 per 100 cwt. for the transport of salt from the pans to the boats, and this charge will now be greatly reduced.

The collection of salt in 1887 is the largest on record. For the yala collection (sirupókam) 34,644 cwt. were collected, and during the maha (perupókam) the estimate amounts to no less than 508,730 cwt., and I expect the actual quantity will turn out to be 700,000 cwt. The weather was exceptionally favourable, and there was no break in the collection from June 8 to October 19.

This quantity of salt, added to the amount in store at the close of the year, should be sufficient to meet the demand for nearly four years.

The sales in 1887 amounted to 235,207 cwt., as follows:—

	Cwt.
Sold by wholesale	220,048
Sold for export coastwise	7,650
Sold for local consumption at the retail price of Rs. 2·24 ...	5,283
Sold at the reduced price of Re. 1 per cwt. for use in the Fish-curing yard, Udappu	1,558
Sold to fish-curers at Rs. 2·70	570
Wastage paid for	98
Total ...	235,207

In addition to these sales 17,680 cwt. were sent to Jaffna and Mannár for sale by the Government Agent of the Northern Province.

The total expenditure on account of salt amounted to the large sum of Rs. 114,847·07, due to the payment of the moiety value of the large collection, and the revenue amounted to Rs. 553,164·47, showing a profit of Rs. 438,317·40, or 381 per cent.

A noteworthy point in connection with the sale of salt is the remarkable increase in the retail sale in Demala hatpattu. This was one of the points which struck me as of importance in connection with the improvement in the health of the people. A sufficiency of salt is most important, especially among a people who have shown, by the prevalence of paraṇgi, that they suffer much from poverty of blood.

In 1885 I removed the retail boutique from Koṭṭukachchiya to Anamaḍuwa, which is more conveniently situated for the people of Demala hatpattu. In 1887 I established a second boutique at Kumbukwęwa, and later in the year a third at Punawiṭiya to serve the wants of the southern division.

The result has been an increase in the retail sale in Demala hatpattu from 290 cwt. in 1884 to 665 in 1885 and 975 cwt. in 1887; and I have no doubt that the increased consumption of salt has had a beneficial effect on the constitutions of the people.

FISH-CURING YARD.

The fish-curing yard established at Udappu in February, 1886, has continued to work satisfactorily and to show a steady improvement. The working expenses have been reduced, while the amount of salt sold and of fish brought into the yard to be cured has sensibly increased. I annex comparative statements showing the charges incurred and the results of operations in 1886 and 1887. The increase during the early months of 1888 is still more marked.

Comparative Statement of Charges.

	1886.		1887.	
	February to June.	October to December.	January to April.	November and December.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
New Buildings ...	182 52	194 80	—	1 20
Pay of Establishment	158 75	128 75	252 95	100 0
Cost of conveying Salt	54 50	145 0	160 0	180 0
Minor Charges ...	2 50	—	—	—
Total ...	398 27	468 55	412 95	281 20

Abstract of Fish-curing Operations.

	1886.		1887.	
	February to June.	October to December.	January to April.	November and December.
Number of Applicants ...	324	377	1,136	756
	Cwt. lb.	Cwt. lb.	Cwt. lb.	Cwt. lb.
Fish received ...	492 87	717 19	2,021 83	2,161 83
Fish removed ...	577 86	355 78	1,243 102	1,454 30
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Salt sold at Re. 1 ...	196 0	325 0	816 0	637 0

The supplementary store, which I established for the sale of salt to fish-curers who do not frequent the yard, has also proved successful.

Many of the fishermen complained, that when a large haul of fish was captured at a spot at some distance from the yard, it was found impossible to convey the fish to the yard, cut them open, and fill them with salt, before the flesh began to turn putrid. They therefore asked for facilities for purchasing salt for use outside the yard, so that, while the net was being hauled in the salt could be conveyed to the spot and work commenced at once.

It was for this purpose that the "general store" was established. The curers do not get the privilege of cheap salt, but merely the advantage of getting it on the spot. The salt is sold at Rs. 2·70 per cwt., and between November and December 570 cwt. were sold at this rate, realising Rs. 1,539, the addition of 34 cents to the Puttalam selling-rate paying cost of transport and part of the cost of establishment.

As regards the general advantage of the fish-curing yard system, I cannot but feel that until more yards are established Government is doing little more than putting money into the pockets of a small handful of fishers and curers, who were already securing good profits. Until the quantity of fish locally cured is very considerably increased, the price of dried fish will not sensibly fall. The locally-cured fish realises higher prices by Rs. 2 to Rs. 3 per cwt. than imported fish, and the reduction in the cost of salt from Rs. 2·36 to Re. 1 merely gives an additional profit of Re. 1·36 to the curer.

If this concession increases the number of curers to any large extent, the fishermen will gain by the competition, and at the same time the prices of cured fish will probably be lowered by competition in the markets; but I fear it will be many years before this desirable end can be obtained, for the quantity of locally-cured fish bears a very small proportion to the whole consumption of cured fish.

FOREST DEPARTMENT.

Felling operations in the Department have been less active during 1887 than in former years, owing to the transfer of a great portion of the vote to the Kurunęgala District.

The depôt is now almost empty, and traders are not likely to waste their time in coming to Puttalam for timber, where there is so small a stock to select from. The Forester now spends more than half his time away from this station, being constantly engaged either attending to contracts in the Kurunęgala District or in inspecting lands surveyed for sale.

In former reports I have urged the importance of the reorganisation of the Department and the necessity of appointing a separate officer for this District, and in the absence of such improvements it is painful to see the forest revenue decreasing steadily year by year.

The bulk of the timber sold in Puttalam is exported to India. The revenue derived therefrom is a pure gain to the Government and to the Colony, and it is a very false policy to allow this trade to languish. In fact, the whole treatment of our forests is suicidal.

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

Turning to brighter subjects, I think the improved condition of the people of all classes is a matter for much congratulation.

It is only those who have seen with their own eyes the condition of the people in some of our poorer Districts over a period of some years that can appreciate the wonderful change that has taken place in the last few years.

Taking the poorest part of this District—the Demala hatpattu—this may in all respects be regarded in the same light as the adjoining Vanni hatpattu of Seven Kóralés.

When I first came to the North-Western Province ten years ago, the condition of the people of these hatpattus was most deplorable. The tanks were out of repair, the villages dirty and neglected and quite inaccessible for want of roads, the people starving and miserable and sunk into such a state of apathy from repeated attacks of fever, that it seemed impossible to do anything to raise them from the "Slough of Despond." I speak from a personal knowledge of the facts, and fear no contradiction. I can remember people begging to be allowed to cut down cocoanut and palmirah trees from Crown lands, in order that they might avert starvation by eating the cabbage. I have had men surrendering themselves as road defaulters and praying to be sent to jail, in order to get the good food of the prisoners; and when I have told a man that he was exempted on the ground of old age, he has pleaded that he was a defaulter for four or five years, in hopes that he might at all events be committed to jail for seven days. "If I am fifty-five now," he pleaded, "I was only fifty-three in 1877, ever since which year I have been a defaulter." And again, when passing along the roads or through the villages I have seen three out of every five men emaciated, dropsical, and diseased; and as late as 1880 I remember seeing a report from an officer of the Civil Medical Department describing the deplorable condition of the people. I am speaking of the Vanni hatpattu of eight and ten years ago, but even as late as 1884 I found a similar state of affairs in the Demala hatpattu. Paraṇgi was rampant, food insufficient, the water in the tanks reduced to mere puddles fouled by buffaloes and other causes, and the condition of the people similar to that which I have described above. So strongly impressed was I, that in 1885 I wrote a strong memorandum to Government begging for special assistance.

Visitors to the District in the present day find it hard to believe what was the condition of the people a few years ago, and only recently I read an article in one of the local papers sneering at the descriptions given by Government officers of the condition of villagers in the North-Central Province. Now it is hard to find the paraṇgi-stricken, half-starved villagers. Passing along the roads one sees healthy, sleek, and well-fed men going to their labour, and holding up their heads with cheerful looks as they see their thriving crops. Two years ago every man was grumbling at the forced *rájakáriya* (compulsory work on their own tanks) and at the restriction imposed on chena cultivation; but on my last circuit in Demala hatpattu I was much struck by the total absence of complaints. Three petitions came to my hand: the first was asking for permission to commence at once asweddumising lands under Maha Uswęwa; the second was for a lease on easy terms of the fields of an abandoned village; the third was for the lease of a piece of jungle land for cocoanut cultivation.

As I was riding through one village the people came to thank me for getting them a sluice. Ever since the *uęw-rájakáriya* had commenced they had had annual crops, whereas previously they had not had a crop more than once in five years; and the same story was repeated from village to village.

Good bridle roads, by which carts can pass, have been opened to all the sluiced tanks, and all by communal labour, and yet not a grumble did I hear about this terrible *rájakáriya*. To my mind there is no more cheering sign than this; for all revenue officers, who have had experience of tank work, will know how hard it was at first to contend against the apathy and grumbling of the villagers. But perhaps the paddy rent figures will do more to convince outsiders than anything else.

In 1884 we had a drought in every way similar to that of 1887, lasting from May to October. In 1884 the yala paddy crop was *nil*. In 1887 it amounted to about 16,000 bushels, the rent selling for Rs. 1,217 (the highest figure since 1878), while the rent of the maha harvest just sold realised a figure which was only once beaten in the last ten years.

If further figures are required, let us look to the registration returns, 1881-85:—

	Births.	Deaths.
1881	251 ...	557
1882	308 ...	352
1883	362 ...	257
1884	337 ...	275
1885	280 ...	460
Total for five years ...	1,538	1,901
Average ...	307 ...	380

or a loss of population averaging 73 per annum. The figures for 1886 and 1887 are as follows:—

	Births.	Deaths.
1886	330 ...	284
1887	352 ...	301
Total for two years ...	682	585
Average ...	341 ...	292

showing an increase of population of 97 in the two years.

The Road Ordinance returns give very interesting figures, as follows :—

	1885.	1886.	1887.
Paid single rate ...	1,043 ...	1,034 ...	1,259
Paid double ...	27 ...	14 ...	13
Laboured single ...	332 ...	306 ...	149
Laboured double ...	—	65 ...	13

The great increase in the number of men who paid their tax instead of performing labour is a sure sign of increasing prosperity.

On the part of Government much has been done. Maha Uswęwa was restored last year and the lands sold under special conditions, with the result that 221 acres were taken up by villagers at the end of the year.

A paraṇgi hospital was also built and is ready for occupation, and fourteen of the smaller village tanks were sluiced.

In other parts of the District the signs of progress are very marked, but their nature is not the same as in the Demala hatpattu; for the change is not one from poverty to a bare livelihood, but from ease to wealth. The improvement is chiefly seen in the extent of lands brought under cultivation. I have recently had a careful census prepared of all cocoanut gardens in the Piṭigal kóralés north and south, with the result that a most remarkable extension of cocoanut-planting is disclosed.

Thus, in the Piṭigal kóralé south the gardens planted before 1876 amount to 17,339 acres, those planted between 1876 and 1883 amount to 5,578 acres, while those planted between 1884 and the present season amount to no less than 10,241 acres, so that in the last twelve years the area has been almost doubled.

In the Piṭigal kóralé north the proportionate increase is even greater. The cocoanut gardens in full bearing amount only to 1,678 acres, while those planted within the last ten years show an acreage of 4,046, of which 2,930 have been planted since 1883.

In the Puttalam and Akkarai pattus there has been a similar increase, but my figures for these are not so reliable, as I have not yet received a village census.

Nor is the extension of cocoanut cultivation the only sign of progress. The number of carts licensed in the District is a very sure sign of material progress, and the figures for the past three years are as follows :—

1885	1,238
1886	1,307
1887	1,366

showing an increase of ten per cent.

The vital statistics show an increase in population since the census was taken from 78,164 to 80,985; and it is probable that an accurate census would show a far greater increase, for the numbers on the division officers' rolls (*i. e.*, of males between 18 and 55 years of age) show an increase from 14,368 in 1881 to 18,092 for 1887, or nearly 26 per cent.

FOOD SUPPLY.

The paddy rent returns of the past four years show the following steady increase :—

	Rs.
1884	11,605
1885	14,652
1886	16,451
1887	18,010

and the increase during the past year was in spite of a long and serious drought, which affected all the yala crops except those which had the benefit of irrigation.

It is probable that the actual crops amounted to 240,000 bushels, distributed as follows :—

	Bushels.
Puttalam and Kalpiṭiya	13,320
Piṭigal kóralé North	68,560
Piṭigal kóralé South	113,060
Demala Hatpattu	45,060

This would give one-third bushel of rice per head in the Puttalam and Kalpiṭiya districts, 2¾ bushels of rice per head in the Piṭigal kóralé north, 1¼ bushel per head in the Piṭigal kóralé south, and 3¾ bushels per head in the Demala hatpattu.

In this last division the food supply is made up by a considerable amount of fine grain, which cannot be assessed as the chenas are not taxed; and this is the only division which grows the whole of its own food supply. The people of the other divisions live chiefly on imported rice, exporting in return large quantities of copperah, coir, vegetables, cured and fresh fish, tobacco, &c. Food is abundant and cheap, and the people healthy and prosperous.

The price of Coast rice throughout the District varies from Rs. 2·87 to Rs. 3·25 per bushel, except in the Demala hatpattu, where it is about Rs. 4.

Country paddy sells for 75c. to Re. 1·25, and country rice for about Rs. 2·25.

The actual outturn of the crop of the Mádampé fields for the maha harvest of 1887 amounted to 20,700 bushels of paddy, and the crop just reaped must have been nearly as great, though somewhat damaged by the floods of November and December.

LEGISLATION.

I can make no suggestions beyond what I have already made in former reports. Much has lately been done, and is now being done, to improve the administration of justice in the Island, especially with regard to the duties of the Fiscal.

I am still of opinion, though I know that it is one not shared by many, that special legislation is required for the settlement of lands in the "jungle" districts, especially those parts which belong to the Kandyan Provinces. I believe that it would be to the interest, both of Government and of the villager, if Commissioners were appointed to settle in every village what high lands may fairly be treated as "appurtenant" to fields and what should belong to the Crown. A rough survey

should be made showing the areas separately of hamlet, paddy fields, and tanks, and then the "appurtenances" computed and marked off both on the ground and on the plan.

I also think that registration of all deeds affecting titles to lands should be compulsory, all deeds becoming null and void after three months if not registered.

The new Civil Procedure Code will, I hope, be stringently applied with regard to the administration of estates. A glance at the Mohammedan code of laws of succession will show the extraordinary divisions of property made among the relations of the deceased; and I have known cases where one after another person has died before the partition of the estate of the first has been made up, and it has been almost impossible to say what share of an original estate would fall to the third or fourth heir in succession.

WORKS REQUIRED.

I must still place in the forefront of these the bridge over the Deduru-oya near Chilaw, which has appeared in the lists of works required for about twenty years. The District is now going through a period of transition: ten years ago no lands were ever bought by "outsiders" north of Mádampé, and four years ago I used to be told it would be useless to plant cocoanuts north of the Deduru-oya for want of water.

Now all this is changed. There are no blocks of land in the Pitigal kóralé south available for a large estate. Purchasers are forced to come northward. New estates have been opened up north of Deduru-oya and all along the road to Puttalam: at Kumárakattuwa 50 acres have been planted; at Mandalána an estate of 500 acres is now being cleared; at Rájakadaluwa and Arachchikattuwa nearly 2,000 acres have been opened,—the new estates extending for more than a mile on either side of the road and quarter of a mile in depth on the east side. At Battulu-oya the new gardens have been extended for more than a mile southward, while on the north the lands already cleared or about to be cleared (lately sold) extend all the way to Mundel, a distance of five miles. At Sántiyakali, again, the estates run for nearly a mile along the roadside, and there are further clearings at intervals until Puttalam is reached. To all these estates a bridge over the Deduru-oya is a matter of the greatest importance. It must be remembered that it is not merely in flood time that inconvenience arises, but all the year round the ferry is a difficult one. I should be very sorry to take a horse up the steep angle of the flap at any time, and to allow him to drag a carriage up would mean broken knees to the horse and the total wreck of a carriage. I have never yet seen bullocks drag a cart up the flap without one or both coming on its knees. But even after this difficulty is surmounted another crops up. During ten out of the twelve months there is a stretch of loose river sand of about 120 yards to be crossed, and unless assistance is obtained (which means a further tax) neither horse nor bulls could draw a loaded vehicle over this sand. In flood time the river is absolutely impassable for days together.

More important, though I place it second in order, is the railway to Chilaw (and ultimately to Puttalam, Anurádhapura, Mannár, Jaffna, and Trincomalee). Since I wrote my last report the estimates, both of cost and traffic, have been published as a Sessional Paper, and the question has come within the range of "practical politics."

The estimates of cost of construction were framed by a practical engineer, and are beyond criticism; but unfortunately the traffic estimate was framed by one who admits that he knows nothing of the District. He does not seem to have glanced at the plans to see that the line will be on a dead level, and he consequently places the working expenses on a level with those of the Kandy line. The traffic is absurdly under-estimated, and a work which would probably pay at the outset from 5½ to 6½ per cent. is thrust on one side as only likely to produce 1¼ per cent. profit. I cannot, I think, do better than give in full my memorandum on the subject, written when the estimates appeared, merely adding the latest figures for the export of the produce of the cocoanut for the period from October 1, 1887, to April 12, 1888, as given by the Chamber of Commerce. The increase in the export is most remarkable, and I believe that five-sixths of the products exported come from the district to be served by this line. It will be seen that (without whole cocoanuts) the figures show an increase of 50 per cent., and the three millions of cocoanuts add fully 80,000 cwt. to the total.

The Ceylon Export Season for 1888.

	Cocoanut Oil.	Copperah.	Poonac	Cocoanut.	Coir. Rope.	Coir. Yarn.	Coir. Fibre.	Total.
	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	No.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
Total Exports from October 1, 1887, to April 12, 1888...	221042	91763	64415	3387101	3,493	45223	15306	441242
Do. 1886 do. 1887 ...	156679	32210	57727	—	4,347	38270	9146	298379
Do. 1865 do. 1886 ...	136282	57816	22954	—	3,830	45910	11686	278478
Do. 1884 do. 1885 ...	176609	113018	33171	—	5,611	55376	7132	289917

MEMORANDUM ON THE CHILAW RAILWAY ESTIMATES.

I.—*Construction.*

I ADMIT Mr. Oliver's estimates for construction, compensation, &c., and only wish to invite attention to the following points:—

(*a*) The Toppu wooden bridge was built in 1877 at a cost of Rs. 20,800. It has twice been washed away by floods, and since the last flood it has not been rebuilt. It is absolutely necessary that a new iron bridge be built a this place as soon as the finances of the Colony will stand the heavy charge. There seems to be no reason why one bridge should not be made available (as at Kalutara) for road and rail, and the railway estimate might be credited with half the cost.

(*b*) The same remark applies to the Giṇ-oya bridge at Nainamadam. This is also a wooden bridge requiring constant repair, and for many weeks last year it was in a really dangerous condition. It is only therefore a question of time when this bridge is to be replaced by an iron bridge, and one might be constructed suitable for road and rail.

(c) But more important than all is the deplorable condition of the canal, which now stands alone in furnishing an outlet for the very important salt traffic. The large revenue derived from salt, averaging Rs. 560,000 per annum, is constantly in peril, owing to the difficulties of transport caused by the shallow condition of the canal; but, apart from the question of revenue, is the more serious responsibility imposed upon Government to keep the population provided with this most necessary article of food. For this reason it is absolutely necessary that large sums be spent annually on the upkeep of the canal.

The amount provided for 1887 for the upkeep of the canal are as follows :—

		Rs.
Colombo to Tóppu,	Government money	5,152
Do.	Ordinance labour	2,768
Tóppu to Puttalam,	Government money	9,456
Do.	Ordinance labour	2,367
	Total ...	19,743

And to this was added a special vote of Rs. 5,000, making a total expenditure of Rs. 24,743. From the Estimates for 1888 I glean the following figures :—

		Rs.
Colombo to Tóppu,	Government money	4,420
Do.	Ordinance labour	3,500
Tóppu to Puttalam,	Government money	10,694
Do.	Ordinance labour	1,129
	Total ...	19,743

to which is added a special vote of Rs. 14,000, making Rs. 33,743 in all, equivalent to 1 per cent. on the cost of constructing a railway.

In connection herewith I cannot do better than quote the remarks of His Excellency the Governor in his Financial Message to the Legislative Council on the Estimates for 1888 :—

"A vote of Rs. 14,000 is asked for the improvement of the Puttalam canal. As there is certainly no immediate prospect of railway extension in this direction, it is absolutely necessary to do something to improve the condition of this waterway, so important as regards the transport of salt. At the same time, the Governor thinks it but right to record his own opinion—which he trusts may be a mistaken one—that no moderate expenditure will ever make this canal a commodious or easy channel for navigation, or one by which expeditious transport can be possible; while, if really large sums are to be lavished on facilitating transport between the North-Western Province and Colombo, there can be no doubt of the superior advantages which would attend the construction of a railway."

It must be remembered also that it was in connection with the deplorable condition of the canal that the proposal to construct a railway was first made: and I may mention that for weeks past the boats have only been able to carry half loads of salt, and that no timber at all could be conveyed to Colombo. Both the salt and the timber revenues have therefore been seriously hampered.

II.—*Traffic Estimates.*

Turning to the estimates of the Traffic Superintendent of the Railway, I am glad to note that the Traffic Superintendent states in the very outset that the district is quite unknown to him. It can therefore be no slight on that official if I say that I am quite convinced that the traffic estimates submitted are wholly fallacious.

The district north of Negombo is really *terra incognita* to most of the residents of Ceylon; and it is difficult to persuade people to believe in the enormous extent already under cultivation and now being planted with cocoanuts. It is not a mere belt as it appears to be south of Colombo, but almost every acre of land within five miles of the sea is either fully planted with cocoanuts or is annually planted with tobacco. Here and there (as at Madampé, Mahawęwa, &c.) there are stretches of paddy land, but jungle and chena is almost unknown. This area is being extended eastwards and northwards, and the land sale returns of the last four years will show what a demand there is for a still further extension of cultivation. The remark, therefore, that the District is "similar to the Kalutara District except that paddy fields predominate" is erroneous. Paddy fields are the exception, cocoanut gardens and tobacco gálas the rule. And there is one other point to which I would draw attention, viz., that large numbers of the estates are extensive ones, planted not with a view to meet local wants or the food requirements of the owners, but distinctly with a view to export.

In corroboration of this view I would invite attention to the figures quoted weekly in the papers regarding the price of copperah.

Kalpiṭiya copperah always heads the market at Rs. 36 to Rs. 38 per candy (¼ ton). This is followed by Máravila copperah quoted at Rs. 34 to Rs. 35 per candy, and all other kinds are grouped together under one head as "cart copperah," the ordinary price being only Rs. 28 per candy.

When there is such a wide divergence of price, it may safely be assumed that none but the best would be exported to Europe; and this practically reduces the exports to the production of estates in the Kalpiṭiya and Márávila districts; all other copperah being used to supply the local demands for cocoanut oil, poonac, &c., in addition to the large consumption of the undried cocoanut as an article of food.

My own belief is, that of the produce of the cocoanut exported from Colombo very nearly, if not quite, all comes from the district which will be served by the Chilaw railway. The production of the Colombo District proper is barely sufficient for local requirements in yarn, fibre, oil, and poonac. The products of the Kalutara District are enormously reduced by the quantity of toddy drawn for the manufacture of arrack, the balance being only sufficient for the population of the District itself and the neighbouring interior districts where the cocoanut is not grown.

To this local consumption must be added the quantity of the cocoanut products exported to the Kandyan Districts, where sufficient is not grown for local requirements.

I have not yet been able to ascertain the amount of exports from Galle, but the table of exports for Colombo and Galle combined, as prepared by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce, gives the following figures :—

	Cwt.
Cocoanut oil	304,478
Copperah	108,035
Cocoanut poonac	112,180
Cocoanuts, 9,437,618 @ 28 nuts per cwt.	337,057
Coir rope	9,002
Yarn	65,905
Fibre	19,654
	956,311 = 47,865 tons

If, then, I am correct in supposing that the main bulk of the exports actually comes from the District to be served by the Chilaw railway (the rest being consumed locally in the form of fibre, rope, oil, poonac, and fresh fruit), the figure which I gave for copperah and other cocoanut produce, viz., 32,000 tons, will be found to be very near the mark.

The Traffic Superintendent seems to have forgotten that an enormous export has suddenly arisen both of cocoanuts (entire) and of copperah, and that coir in its various forms (yarn, fibre, and rope) is also a product of the cocoanut.

The figures given by the Traffic Superintendent with regard to the proportions of oil and poonac in copperah bear out my theory about the large local consumption of poonac; for the Chamber of Commerce returns show an export of 304,478 cwt. of cocoanut oil. According to the figures given, this would require 570,900 cwt. of copperah, and would leave a residue of 266,422 cwt. of poonac, of which only 112,180 cwt. were exported, leaving 154,242 cwt. for local consumption in addition to the residue left from the expression of oil which is not exported.

With regard to the Negombo District, I quote as follows from the Administration Report for 1884:—"Of the enormous cocoanut produce of the District only a small portion is consumed locally as food, and of some 4,000,000 trees in the District it is estimated that the produce of not more than 10,000 is used for toddy-drawing. Of the surplus produce some is converted by steam machinery, locally, into oil, poonac, and fibre, but the bulk of it leaves the District in the shape of copperah for sale in Colombo."

Turning from the products of the cocoanut tree to *Cinnamon*, I find that this is entirely omitted from the estimates. I understand the railway trace passes right through some of the most valuable estates; and of this product the Assistant Government Agent, Negombo, gives the figure at 1,988,790 lb., or roughly 17,757 cwt.; and he adds: "The cinnamon produced in this District is all exported to Colombo for shipment to Europe." This product alone should therefore add 887 tons to the traffic estimates.

Tobacco grown in the Negombo District and all along the line of rail as far as Chilaw should bring up the figure to 1,000 tons.

With regard to *Salt*, I agree to a great extent with the views of the Government Agent, and I believe that there will either be the whole traffic or none, and I cannot believe in the compromise of 3,000 tons shown by the Traffic Superintendent.

It must be remembered that I suggest the total abandonment of the canal, which will, I feel sure, be absolutely impassable in three years if no money is spent upon it. I have already referred to the enormous annual expenditure on the canal, and I believe that, if this were saved, the whole of the salt traffic would be forced on to the railway.

I do not fear cart competition in the salt trade: for, in the first place, there is at present no through traffic by carts between Chilaw and Colombo. Such a traffic would have to be created: it would imply an enormous increase in the number of carts, all of the existing carts being now employed in carrying cocoanut produce. One cart can only carry 15 cwt. of salt, and between Chilaw and Colombo there are five tolls. The tolls alone on a ton of salt would therefore amount to the whole railway fare, as the carts would be compelled to return empty. I consider, therefore, that the estimate for salt should either be 9,000 tons or nothing.

Rice, again, I consider to be greatly under-estimated. The Traffic Superintendent (apparently under the impression quoted above with regard to paddy lands) has reduced my estimate for rice from 12,500 tons to 9,000 tons. This is very unreasonable. Of the whole population of the District fully 50,000 live upon imported rice, and what is more, they live well, by which I mean that they probably eat two meals of rice per diem, or an average of nearly a bushel of rice per head per mensem, so that 500,000 bushels is not an excessive estimate. But in addition to this, Coast rice is exported *viâ* Puttalam to Anurádhapura and to villages along the border of Seven Kóralés.

The Negombo District, too, receives enormous supplies of rice from Colombo, and the two Districts together ought to take at least 20,000 tons.

Fish is entirely excluded from the estimate, but I anticipate that both fresh and salt fish will be conveyed by train. I know that in the Government fish-curing yard at Udappu alone 1,244 cwt. of fish (weighed after curing) were salted for export to Colombo;* and the Assistant Government Agent, Negombo, reports that cured fish from the Puttalam and Mannár coasts (brought by sea) in 1884, were valued in the Customs at the nominal value of Rs. 62,629. This probably represents 8,947 cwt. This is cured fish only, and I expect the weight of fresh fish conveyed by train would be far more than double these figures.

But there is an item which one who is not fully acquainted with the District could not be expected to appreciate, and that is, green fruit and vegetable. Every land newly planted with cocoanuts is planted at the same time with plantains, manioc, pumpkins, gourds, &c., and hundreds of boat loads of these go annually to Colombo. I placed my figure for these at 200 tons, but I have reasons for believing that this figure would be far exceeded. I read in the report of the Assistant Government Agent, Kégalla, for 1885 that the export of plantains alone by rail from Rambukkana to Colombo amounted to 561 tons. I believe that the area in this District under plantains must be three or four times the area in the Kégalla District, and yet this item is entirely eliminated from the estimate. I believe that 1,000 tons would not be outside the figure, and yet I have fixed my estimate as low as 200 tons.

Sleepers.—This is a subject which is enough to break the heart of any Government. We have timber (satin palu, milla, &c.) rotting and useless in any quantity in our forests, and yet we go on year after year importing Norwegian sleepers, which are less durable, at an enormous cost: and why? Simply because the railway authorities do not say what it would be worth while to pay for our local sleepers.

We can, and we ought to, supply every single sleeper used on the line, and we might go further and export sleepers for the south of India lines.

Government can fix its own value on the timber for its own use, and if that value were only ten cents per cubic foot, it would be better to pay ten cents from one pocket into another than that we should send so much money (over Rs. 80,000 per annum) out of the country, and leave our own timber to rot. I have said it before, and I repeat it now, that if a railway were brought to Chilaw we could supply the whole railway system with satinwood sleepers at a cost of ten cents (or even Re. 1) less per sleeper than the cost of the imported ones.

We then come to the last head *Miscellaneous*, which covers the whole of the ordinary requirements of a population of 79,000 people.

We have the whole clothing of this population, the miscellaneous curry stuffs, such as turmeric, ginger, goraka; pepper, and the thousand and one articles found in every bazaar, the ordinary common crockery and hardware, bricks and tiles from Nainamadam, straw for cattle, stores and liquors of English manufacture, and arrack from Kalutara All these appear in the Traffic Superintendent's estimate at only 1,000 tons. Such a figure can surely not be regarded as speculative.

The *coaching receipts* I leave at the figure given by the Traffic Superintendent, as I am not in a position to frame any estimate.

Before leaving the receipt side, however, I would point out that though Rs. 20,214 are allowed for construction of telegraph lines and four cents per train mile for telegraph expenses, no item of receipts appears under the head "Telegraphs."

III.—*Working Expenses.*

Turning to the other side of the account, I find the most remarkable figure, which I am at a loss to understand. The item is a solitary one, viz, "Working Expenses per Train Mile." These are set down at the figure Rs. 2·81 per train mile. I am utterly at a loss to imagine how this figure has been arrived at. The line is in all respects similar to the Kalutara line or the low-country portion of the Main line, and the working expenses should be no more than on these.

* In the year 1887 the amount of cured fish sent out of the yard was 2,689 cwt., and in 1888 the figures are still larger.

I have carefully examined the figures given in the Administration Reports of the General Manager for the four years from 1881 to 1885. I find the working expenses on the whole railway system of Ceylon, with the enormous expenditure on the mountain sections, amount on an average to Rs. 2·28 per train mile, the lowest being Rs. 2·12 in 1883 and the highest Rs. 2·62 in 1885.

On the Kalutara section the average for four years was Re. 1·53, the highest being Re. 1·66 and the lowest Re. 1·43 per train mile, and the high rate of Re. 1·66 was explained by the heavy renewals of steel rails necessitated by the salt spray coming from the sea falling on the rails and corroding the steel.

There seems, therefore, no reasonable ground for supposing that the working expenses will exceed Re. 1·53 per train mile, which will make a vast reduction in the figures on the side of expenditure.

To sum up. I arrive at the following estimate :—

			Rs.
I.—Cost of construction		...	3,411,497·50
II.—Working expenses (annual), 55,350 miles, at Re. 1·53		...	84,685·50
III.—Receipts :—	Tons. Rs.		
Copperah, cocoanuts, oil, and fibre ...	32,000 @ 3·50	...	112,000
Rice	12,500 @ 5·00	...	62,500
Cinnamon and tobacco	1,000 @ 3·00	...	3,000
Fish (fresh and cured), plantains, and vegetables	500 @ 3·50	...	1,750
Miscellaneous food stuffs, cloth, English goods, crockery, hardware, &c. ...	1,000 @ 5·00	...	5,000
Timber	500 @ 3·50	...	1,750
			186,000
	Add coaching receipts ...		80,700
			266,700
This excludes salt altogether. If this be added we have 9,000 @ 4·17 ...			37,530
			304,230
	Deduct expenses ...		84,497
	Profit ...		219,733

or 6·47 per cent. on the capital ; and if salt be eliminated altogether, the profit will remain at 5·34 per cent., which gives a fair margin for contingencies.

I fully believe that my estimate is reliable and safe. Many items, I am convinced, are under-estimated, and from a purely financial point of view I regard the scheme as a paying one. In this estimate I have not taken into consideration matters referred to at the commencement of this memorandum, namely, the saving in canal upkeep and the cost of bridges, nor have I considered the financial gain to Government which must accrue from the sale of lands, timber, and probably more salt.

But over and above these questions comes in one of deep import to the Colony. India must sooner or later be connected with the European Continent by railway, and India must in time become one of the chief outlets for our commerce. The Indian railway system is rapidly approaching to Paumben, and Mannár becomes the point of contact between that system and Ceylon. I look, therefore, to further extensions of the Chilaw railway to Puttalam, and thence to Anurádhapura, from which point lines will branch east and west, north and south, first to Mannár, then to Jaffna, and then to Trincomalee. I regard this line, therefore, as the first section of a clearly defined railway system which must sooner or later be carried out. The distance would be as follows :—

Vid Chilaw :—	Miles.	*Vid* Kandy:—	Miles.
Colombo to Chilaw by rail ...	49½	Colombo to Kandy by rail ...	74½
Chilaw to Puttalam ...	32	Kandy to Matalé ...	17½
Puttalam to Anuradhapura ...	46¾	Matalé to Anurádhapura (by road)	73½
	128¼		165½

So that Chilaw is nearly the same distance from Anurádhapura that Mátalé is, and a railway would be taken along a dead level instead of on a steep incline. The cost would be light, and many of the now abandoned but fertile districts would be opened up and brought under cultivation ; and the Wanni might once more become the centre of a teeming and wealthy population.

ROADS.

The principal roads in the District show a considerable improvement during the year, except in those places on the Puttalam-Kurunégala road in which an attempt at repairing has been made by mixing together metal and gravel.

This is quite at variance with the theory of both metalled and gravelled roads. In the former, the angular pieces of stone become wedged together so as to form a solid block of stone ; while in the latter, the gravel becomes consolidated into a crust, which, if properly shaped, allows the rain water to flow off without penetrating through the crust. If metal and gravel are mixed the metal cannot combine, because the gravel comes between the pieces of stone, and the result is that the road is now strewn with loose pieces of stone, which triturate the gravel into fine powder which is blown away with every puff of wind.

The section of road between Rájakadaluwa and Battulu-oya has now been completed, and as the road has been well "barrelled," this section is now in wet weather the best on the whole line of road. Those who remember the old quagmires on this section will recognise the great importance of this work.

The road from Mádampé to Dummalasúriya was much cut to pieces, and I am glad to see that a large vote has been sanctioned for expenditure during this year. The traffic on all these cross roads is yearly increasing as the cocoanut estates along the roads are gradually coming into bearing.

THE CANAL.

The canal has again been giving a large amount of trouble throughout the greater part of its length from Tóppu to Pálávi. Every rainy season brings down large quantities of silt along the larger streams (Mahá-oya, Giṇ-oya and Ḍeḍuru-oya), which is deposited, partly on account of the nearness of the canal to the sea, and partly owing to the flooded rivers pouring their volumes of mud along the line of canal until still water is met, and there the mud is at once deposited.

During the past year the canal has been impassable for loaded boats (except at high tide) at Nanjundankaré (near Tóppu), Boralessa, Tummódara, Nattandiya, Walahapitiya, Karukkupane, Mundel, and almost along the whole course from Mundel to Pálávi. I do not believe the canal can ever be made thoroughly satisfactory, and this is one of the chief reasons why I have urged the necessity of constructing a railway.

His Excellency's words on the subject in his Financial Message to the Legislative Council cannot be too often quoted, and I therefore repeat them here :—

A vote of Rs. 14,000 is asked for the improvement of the Puttalam canal. As there is certainly no immediate prospect of railway extension in this direction, it is absolutely necessary to do something to improve the condition of this waterway, so important as regards the transport of salt. At the same time the Governor thinks it but right to record his own opinion,—which he trusts may be a mistaken one,—that no moderate expenditure will ever make this canal a commodious or easy channel for navigation, or one by which expeditious transport can be possible ; while, if really large sums are to be lavished on facilitating transport between the North-Western Province and Colombo, there can be no doubt of the superior advantages which would attend the construction of a railway.

BUILDINGS.

The new kachchéri at Puttalam is approaching completion, and is a handsome building differing immensely in its style of architecture from the generality of public buildings in Ceylon. The building is large and commodious and well ventilated, and the change from the dingy old quarters will be eagerly welcomed by the members of my establishment.

Now that a District Court has been established in Puttalam, a suitable building will be required for the court. The old school building was converted into a court in 1885, but this building, though suitable for a minor court, is not sufficiently large for a District Court.

A new kachchéri at Chilaw has also become a necessity.

A parangi hospital of a temporary nature (mud walls and cadjan roof) has been erected in the Demala hatpattu, and the villagers are looking forward anxiously to the day when it will be opened.

The other public buildings, jails, and hospitals are in good order, and are kept well.

ADMINISTRATIVE MEASURES NOW IN PROGRESS OR CONTEMPLATION.

The principal administrative measure which has engaged and is engaging my attention is the partition of the District, which has at last been finally arranged. I have long felt that an Assistant Agent residing at Puttalam could not adequately supervise the administration of a District, the wealthiest and most populous portion of which was from forty to sixty miles distant from the kachchéri town.

It was impossible for an Assistant Agent, with the limited time at his disposal, to inquire properly into the wants of the remote parts of the District, to examine for himself the various schemes of improvement which might be suggested, and to inquire into complaints against headmen and others. A good portion of two days would be spent on the journey to Chilaw and an equal time in getting to the furthest corner of the District; and the time actually spent on the high road was wasted time : for it is only when travelling off the main roads that one sees anything of the ordinary village life. It is in this respect, I think, that the Administration of Ceylon is better than that of the neighbouring continent. The districts are smaller, and the revenue officers come more in contact with the people, and have more time to see things for themselves.

But apart from this, the long journeys which suitors had to travel to the District Court were a constant source of complaint. A journey from Kalpitiya to Chilaw and back, or from parts of Demala hatpattu and back, involved an absence of at least six days from the village. And in a single case this journey might be repeated five, six, or even twenty times before a case was finally settled.

All this will now be ended, for a separate kachchéri has been established at Chilaw and a separate District Court at Puttalam ; but even under the new arrangement I do not think that the increased wants of the District are sufficiently met. The District has taken enormous strides in the last few years, the population is increasing rapidly, and the work is growing day by day. On the other hand, there are parts of the District which have been much neglected and which require development, and the Assistant Agent should be able to devote far more time than he can now give to travelling in these districts and seeing for himself the wants of the people.

For this reason I consider that it is absolutely necessary that a separate Judicial Officer should be appointed to this station, and that the Assistant Agent should be relieved from all work connected with the Courts.

It would require the head of a clever mathematician to apportion the number of hours per week to be allotted to the various duties of the Assistant Agent, who now holds the following offices :—

1 Assistant Government Agent	6 Chairman, Local Board
2 District Judge	7 Deputy Fiscal
3 Police Magistrate	8 Assistant Provincial Registrar
4 Commissioner of Requests	9 Superintendent of Prisons
5 Chairman, District Road Committee	10 Visitor of Chilaw jail

Another matter of great importance to the District is the establishment of an office for the registration of lands, which I trust may be sanctioned. I have been surprised at the number of deeds executed annually by the notaries of the District, and now that a District Court has been established, it becomes all the more important that facilities should be given for the registration of deeds.

The centralisation of the salt in depôts near the Assistant Agent's residence is a matter which has occupied my thoughts for some years, and at length this is almost *un fait accompli*.

As regards works in progress, the road from Pálávi to Kalpitiya is one of the greatest importance. Last year a Government vote of Rs. 5,000 was granted, to which the District Road Committee added Rs. 2,000, and a further Government grant of Rs. 10,800 has this year been sanctioned. This will complete the road for a distance of seven and a half miles, and I trust that annual grants may be allowed until the road is complete. Now that all suitors from Kalpitiya

have to attend court in Puttalam, this road becomes the more necessary as water travelling is very uncertain. The trip to Kalpiṭiya, which may at one season be accomplished in three hours, at another will take from fifteen to twenty hours.

In the Demala hatpattu a small annual expenditure on the smaller village tanks until they all are sluiced will do much to relieve the people from want and to render perfectly healthy a district which has been almost depopulated by famine, fever, and paraṇgi. Fourteen tanks were sluiced last year, and it is hoped that an equal number may be sluiced in 1888. It must be remembered that no sluices are given until the people have made satisfactory progress with their earthwork, and the value of the work done by the villagers is more than double of that which is contributed by Government, which is very soon recouped by the increased tithe of the lands.

THE GRAIN TAX ORDINANCE.

There is no commutation in this District, and as far as I have been able to ascertain the old renting system continues to work smoothly.

Mádampé is the only place at which I have heard the wish expressed for a change to the commutation system, and here the wish is due, I believe, to family feuds.

SANITARY CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

The health of the people has been uniformly good. Measles broke out in a few villages during the year, but the attack was not a severe one.

There has been a vast improvement in the health of the people of the Demala hatpattu. The number of deaths has decreased steadily since 1885, and the people look sleek and healthy. This is mainly due to increased cultivation of paddy and diminution of the use of fine grain as food, and to the better water now obtainable in tanks and wells.

There are hospitals at Puttalam, Chilaw, and Máráwila, and a paraṇgi hospital has just been built at Tennankuriyáwa in Demala hatpattu. There is also a dispensary in Kalpiṭiya, and many of the ordinary drugs are obtainable in Puttalam, Nattandiya, Máráwila, and other villages.

CRIME.

The records of the courts do not point to any large amount of crime in the Puttalam District north of Chilaw. There was one case of murder, in which the accused was sentenced to death, but, as a rule, there are not many acts of violence.

In the southern portion of the District there is more crime, but this is, I believe, on the decrease. A brutal murder was committed early in the year at Gonávila, and for a long time the parties evaded arrest, and there was but little evidence forthcoming. This murder, following on one which had taken place in the same village a few months before, had a very bad effect, and the headmen were called upon to exert themselves to the utmost to bring the guilty parties to justice. In this they were successful. The man who had committed the first murder, but escaped from Chilaw jail while awaiting trial, was rearrested in the Kurunégala District, and sentenced to ten years' imprisonment at hard labour; and three accused were, after some months, arrested in the second case, and all suffered the extreme penalty of the law.

It is to be hoped that the justice meted out in these cases may have a deterrent effect.

Cattle-stealing is carried on throughout the District under different forms, but it is very seldom that cases come for trial. Unfortunately the aggrieved parties are too ready to settle cattle-stealing cases out of court, and when the case is called either they fail to appear or they have no evidence.

CATTLE DISEASE.

There has been no disease among cattle during the year, but many died from starvation and want of water during the long drought.

NEW AREAS OF CULTIVATION.

Scarcely any part of this District has been without new extensions of cultivation. Fully 4,000 acres of land have been cleared for cocoanuts during the past year. Travellers along the road from Chilaw to Puttalam, who remember the road as it was four years ago, passing through what seemed an endless tract of unvarying jungle, would scarcely believe now that they are travelling along the same road. The jungle all over the country is rapidly giving way to plantations of cocoanuts, which look green and fresh with the bushes of plantation and manioc, which are put in to shade the young plants, cool the soil, and at the same time to yield a handsome return.

In the Demala hatpattu much paddy land which has long lain idle and useless is now being asweddumised and brought again under cultivation.

WORK OTHER THAN ROUTINE.

Much of my time and attention has been occupied in considering what village tanks in Demala hatpattu should be sluiced, and in persuading the people to contribute the earthwork due by them, and to carry out other works beneficial to their health and the District generally, such as communal roads, wells, &c. I have also taken much interest in the building by communal labour of a hospital with numerous buildings for the medical officer, dispensary, kitchen, &c., at Tennankuriyáwa, Government giving only a small vote to pay for materials. The work has been slow owing to paucity of labourers and unfavourable weather, but the buildings are complete and ready for occupation, and the villagers are anxious to get the benefit of the new hospital.

EVENTS OF INTEREST.

The only event of interest in this District which occurred in 1887 was the celebration of Her Majesty's jubilee, which was carried out throughout the District with great enthusiasm. Reports have been forwarded to Government detailing the proceedings in each place, and as the events were at the time described *ad nauseam*, I will now merely mention that the event seemed a favourable occasion for getting the waterworks extended through the town of Puttalam for the benefit of the people.

THE THOROUGHFARES ORDINANCE OF 1884.

I thought last year that the results of the working of the new Road Ordinance were so favourable that they could not be surpassed. In 1887, however, the results were even more favourable than before, for though the numbers on the division officers' rolls had increased by 1,303, the number of men unaccounted for at the end of the year amounted only to six. I annex a statement showing the figures for the past three years :—

	1884.*	1885.	1886.	1887.
Total on list ...	15,754	16,537	16,789	18,092
Exempted	99	211	378	404
Dead or paid elsewhere and twice entered	242	1,496	468	600
Absentees	523		797	1,017
Total non-effective	864	1,707	1,643	2,021
Effective balance	14,890	14,830	15,146	16,071
Paid at single rate	10,253	12,985	13,476	14,391
Do. with extra 25 cents...	503	—	—	—
Paid at double rate	349	545	374	528
Performed labour	178	867	1,186	1,078
Imprisoned	—	91	45	55
Fined	—	45	20	13
Outstanding	3,607	297	45	6

* Under the old Ordinance.

C. M. LUSHINGTON,
Acting Assistant Government Agent.

Extracts from Diary.

January 4.—These Moormen, I fear, still intend to give trouble. Last week I promised to inquire into their disputes with a view to an amicable settlement, but I said they must first sign a paper agreeing to abide by my decision, as it could have no legal force. This they declined to do, so I said they must go to a court of law. To-day the Head Moorman came to ask for a license for the Sandanakúḍu procession to take place to-morrow. I said I would first make inquiries, and he had barely left when a strong representation was made to me by Mr. Nicholas (Proctor) on behalf of the opposite party, who claim to be entitled to conduct the procession by virtue of an agreement entered into about six months ago, by which the two parties agreed to divide the year in two for the purpose of their religious observances. From inquiries, I am convinced that there will be a disturbance if either side takes the procession ; so I refused to give any license at all, and as Police Magistrate issued a special order forbidding a procession at all. I drove slowly past the mosque in the evening to see what was going on, but though there was a great crowd at their evening devotions, there was no sign of a disturbance. I hear they intend to carry their pagodas round the mosque inside the walls. With this I shall not interfere.

January 5.—Last night passed off quietly enough, and I hear the two parties of Moormen are trying to come to terms. They don't like my prohibition of their processions, and I tell them clearly that I shall not remove the prohibition until I find that the feud is at an end. Even a small wedding procession was last year made the ground for a disturbance.

January 6.—Mr. Dunuwila reports from Kalpiṭiya that he is staying till Saturday, as there is the probability of troubles at Kalpiṭiya among the Moors there.

January 7.—Received reports from the Mudaliyár on the work done, &c., by defaulters of former years, to whom I gave the option of performing labour for six days or paying Re. 1·75 as commutation. The figures are very satisfactory, and show how much would have been lost if I merely struck off the amount in default as irrecoverable.

In Piṭigal kóralé south 241 men have paid the commuted rate, 325 have worked for six days each on the Kompasupára, and 36 on the Gregoryville road.

The result is, that the Mudaliyár was enabled to travel in his cart from Vilattuwa to Dummalasúriya (nine miles). Three miles from Singakkuliya are also available for carts, while the whole length of twenty-four miles has been cleared.

I see that an amount has been included in the Supply Bill for this road. I think that in 1887 this should be spent in opening the whole length as a natural road, leaving improvements to be taken up hereafter. Parts have not yet been cleared of roots and stumps, and if these are not removed the jungle will soon grow up.

Besides the above figures, 9 men have worked on the new road from Madurankuli to Toduwáwa (this road runs right across Akkárai pattu) and 7 men have commuted : 82 men have worked on the new road from Haldanduwana to Dummaladeniya, 4 at Chilaw, and 29 at Battulu-oya.

January 10.—Started after going through my tappal letters for Chilaw, pushing through (32 miles) in the day. The road as far as Battulu-oya is now repaired and in fair order. The gravel is spread over the greater portion between Battulu-oya and Rájakadaluwa. We only had to go into the jungle at two places where culverts are being built. The last mile before reaching Rájakadaluwa has not been touched, and consists of a very heavy loose sand. The ferry boat at Dęduru-oya has twice come to grief in the last month. I wrote to ask that a new one might be sent up, but none has arrived. The boat is high and dry, undergoing repairs, and I had the pleasure of nearly an hour there, first getting self and goods (including harness off my horse) over in a canoe, then my carriage was drawn through the river (nearly 5 ft. deep in parts) by coolies, and last of all my mare had to swim over. After this I am expected to pay toll as well as the coolies employed ! And I cannot of course go on in my carriage, and have to engage a cart. I wonder how the poorer people manage : also how long this state of things will last.

January 11.—On to Máráwila in the morning. I see that nothing whatever has been done yet at Timipiṭiyawęwa. It is a shame the way the work has been delayed. The crop on the fields is ripening up fast, and will probably be reaped in ten days or a fortnight.

My mare seems stiff after her sudden bath in the Dęduru-oya last night when she was hot and tired.

January 13.—Travelled in the morning to Haldanduwana *viâ* Náttandiya. The cross road from Máráwila to Náttandiya is again getting much cut up by the heavy traffic. The two new culverts are completed, and seem well built. Near Tummódara the breach in the road opposite to the Koswatu-oya is getting worse and worse. I have written two or three times to ask that something may be done at this place, but it has not yet been touched At Náttandiya I saw no less than five páda boats being loaded with ash-pumpkins, presumably from the newly-opened lands at Dunkannáwa or Tabbowa. I suppose each boat would hold 5,000 pumpkins, so there must have been 25,000 ! Talk of cheap food for the million !

Nothing has been done at the Tummódara bridge since I was here last, and the Mudaliyár explained that he had received no written instructions about the work. I therefore at once wrote my instructions, and told him to push on with the work without delay.

The paddy near Náttandiya and at Kirimęṭiyána and other places along the road looks very well, but I fear it will suffer if we do not soon get rain

Signed cart and gun licenses and took up claims for exemption.

January 14.—Employed during the greater part of the day in renewing acts of headmen, filling up vacancies and making inquiries. In the evening signed another large batch of cart and gun licenses and took up petitions.

January 15.—Early in the morning went in a cart along the new road leading from Haldanduwana *viâ* Bandirippuwa to Dummaladeniya. A very large amount of work has been done by the defaulters of former years whom I ordered to be turned out on this road. Though there are one or two places where the road is dangerous, owing to water having cut deep "ravines" through the hard gravelly soil in the centre of the road, the whole length is now passable for carts, and it will not cost much to make further improvements, as part of the road passes through gravel soil. There are two rather steep hills, but the spoil cut away in easing off the slopes can be used for gravelling the more sandy portions. Two or three small platform bridges will be required. I told the Muhandiram he might continue to order out the former year's defaulters. This had been stopped, as I thought the work would come under the new Assistant Government Agent, Chilaw.

After breakfast drove to Waikkal, where I had large numbers more of cart licenses, and took up a few inquiries. There are one or two matters which cause me some trouble in this part of the District. One is the prevalence of gambling and illicit sale of arrack, which is persistently carried out in some of the villages. In the village Muddarawala, near Bolawatta, the headmen say it is carried on in every house. The people keep spies to look out for the approach of headmen, so it is most difficult to stop. A headman pounced upon one gambling party last month, but the case as presented to court was not very strong, and the accused were acquitted, since which case the offences are said to be going on worse than ever.

The other matter is the cocoanut stealing about Kaimal and the neighbouring villages. It is said that one or two gangs of rascals keep these villages in terror. The owners of gardens never pick their own cocoanuts, for just as they are ripening the trees are stripped by the thieves. One of the ruffians was caught red-handed about three years ago, when he turned round and stabbed to death the owner of the garden. He expiated his crime on the scaffold, but the remainder of the gang still keep up the systematic theft of the cocoanuts.

January 17.—Engaged with my office papers before breakfast, and all day with renewal of acts of headmen, inquiries, filling up vacancies, &c., and signing cart licenses. It was dark before I stopped work, and they tell me there are still more than 100 carts to be licensed.

Father Henry, Roman Catholic Priest of Márávila and surrounding district, came to see me just as the other work was over, and had a long talk regarding the lawlessness of the district, the wants of the people, &c. He especially laid stress on the want of a road and bridge to Mattakotuwa and Toduwáwa. I intended to have gone there last year, but was prevented by high water. I arranged to go with him early to-morrow morning.

January 18.—Started early in the morning with Father Henry, driving along the high road as far as Mahawęwa. We went on by cart to Mattakotuwa and thence on foot to the sea-coast at Toduwáwa. The "road" is merely a sandy track through a lot of cocoanut gardens, winding and turning in every direction. Arriving at the Roman Catholics' burial ground at Mattakotuwa, we could see the road barely one-third of the mile away, and it ought to be very easy to get a direct trace in lieu of the long track (one and a half to two miles) by which we came. A fine new Roman Catholic church is being built at Mattakotuwa, and the population all round is very dense. A noticeable feature of the church consists of long pillars 34 ft. long, each cut from a single jak tree. It is seldom one sees such fine long pieces of timber.

Between Mattakotuwa and Toduwáwa is a large extent (some 60 acres) of waste land periodically inundated by salt water from the canal. I saw what had evidently once been a channel by which water was once brought from the Mahawęwa tank and fields to irrigate this land. I feel quite sure the salt water might be bunded out and this land converted into a fine tract of paddy fields. I will see if I can get any one to take up this work. A little further on is the arm or backwater which requires to be bridged. Five years ago the people clubbed together and subscribed Rs. 200 for a bridge. They then engaged a contractor to put up a bridge for this sum, which they seem to have paid in advance. The contractor drove in a few piles of common jungle timber, got the planks of an old and rotten pada boat (the stitches of which are still visible!) and put these over the piles, the two ends sloping at about an angle of 45.° He then disappeared, and naturally the bridge is almost useless. Father Henry promises to raise Rs. 200 if the District Road Committee will give a like amount. The bridge, if well constructed with palu piles, &c, will probably cost more than Rs. 400, but I think it should be done; for there is a constant traffic along this road, the fishers of Toduwáwa taking their fish for sale and going to Mádampé to buy provisions. Walked on to Toduwáwa, which is a populous fishing village with over 1,000 persons engaged in the pursuit. There are very few of the large flat-bottomed boats and large nets called "mádęl," most of the people using the regular "catta-maram," consisting of four logs shaped and tied together with rope.

I watched some of the sales of fish as the nets were drawn ashore, and made other inquiries to see if the station would be a suitable one for the establishment of a fish-curing yard; but I came to the conclusion that it would not be suitable. There is such a dense population in the neighbourhood that all the fish is sold for consumption when fresh, and the fishing people say that they rarely send away more than 15 cartloads (say 150 cwt.) of salted fish in each season Some of the fresh fish is sent by regular organised lines of runners all the way from Toduwáwa to Kurunęgala, a distance of about 46 miles. The price of the fish on the spot seems to average about 5c. per lb., a price at which it would not pay to cure fish (at Udappu it averages only 1c per lb.).

Returned to Máráwila by the same way that I went, and did not get back till past 11 o'clock, and was fully occupied till past 5, when I drove off to Chilaw, the last half of the journey being made in the dark.

January 19.—At Chilaw. All the morning before breakfast attending to papers which came by post, and the rest of the day employed in renewal of acts of headmen, inquiries, filling up vacancies, and signing cart licenses.

January 20.—Finished off the exemptions, cart licenses, &c., about 2 P.M., and then started back for Battulu-oya, stopping at Rajakadaluwa to look at some of the new clearings. Mr. Miller is clearing a small piece under shade for the cultivation of pepper. Sego Warusé, of Chilaw, has commenced to fell the adjoining block, which he purchased in July, 1885. The Chilaw Mudaliyár has opened a second block, and other purchasers along the road have made a very good show, so that the long waste of jungle is rapidly giving way to cocoanuts, plaintains, manioc, &c.; and yet when I came to this District less than three years ago, I used to be told that this land was only fit for chena clearings.

The Mudaliyar's experiment with transplanting paddy looks very successful. He says he sowed 3 parrahs of paddy and transplanted it to land which usually required 60 parrahs sown broadcast. The whole is now fully covered, and the crop looks even better than that which he would have got if he had sown 60 parrahs broadcast. I feared in December the crop would be lost for want of rain, but fortunately rain fell last month and revived the paddy.

In two places had to go off the road where culverts are being built. I shall be very glad when this work is finished. Only part of the gravel has yet been spread. Reached Batulu-oya about 7 P.M.

January 21.—Rain fell steadily during the greater part of last night, and made the roads very heavy this morning.

I fear, from all accounts, the Muhandiram of Battulu-oya is seriously ill. The Chilaw Doctor has been twice to see him, but he refuses to take English medicines, and I saw his nephew yesterday hurrying off to Madampé to summon a Buddhist priest who has a high reputation as a vedarála. The Muhandiram has been delirious for about a fortnight, and seems to be suffering from a complication of diseases. Though we left before 7 A.M. did not reach Puttalam till 12 noon, as the bullocks travelled very slowly over the heavy road. There seems (as usual) to have been very little rain at Puttalam.

February 7.—Drove in the afternoon to Tonigalla with bullocks in my carriage for the first six miles.

February 8.—Occupied during the whole day with renewal of acts of headmen, examining candidates for vacancies, and general inquiries into the condition of the people of Demala hatpattu. In most parts there are favourable accounts of the paddy crops, but in other parts the crops are likely to fail unless we get rain shortly. There are heavy clouds about now, and we may, I hope, get rain in a day or two.

The health of the people seems very much improved, and paraṇgi is decidedly on the decrease, as shown by the applications received to-day for exemption from road tax. Of course, there were still some cases, but very few of those abject-looking victims of paraṇgi one used to see two and three years ago.

I explained to the people the objects of the paraṇgi hospital and took care to explain that the institution was for their benefit, that Government would incur heavy cost in paying for the erection and upkeep of the hospital in providing food and medicines, and that the people would have nothing to pay. The best of institutions frequently suffer from false impressions being spread abroad (often maliciously) that the parties will have to pay, and that Government would not incur expense without a return. The people undertook to give their assistance in erecting the buildings and in urging upon all patients being sent to the hospital. I went on to explain that a dispensary would also be established for the gratis distribution of medicines for fever, &c., to out-patients.

The feeling of the people about wells seems much divided. Some are very strongly in favour of them, and in several places it was mentioned that in those villages where wells were dug last year, and where the people use only well water, paraṇgi has disappeared. In other villages they have allowed the wells to fall into disrepair, the people being satisfied with tank water, while in one village, where a well was dug, many of the people persistently pass by the well and go to the tank for water, alleging that the tank water is more "tasty."

In Karambe pattu there are now wells in every village, and the kórála reports that the district is very healthy. There are only a few scattered cases of paraṇgi, and in several villages none at all.

Several of the tanks are leaking owing to bad masonry—*e. g.*, Gallęwa, Karambęwa, and others, while Tattęwa sluice has been entirely washed away. This is the second sluice washed away in twelve months, Kónkaḍawala having gone last year.

February 9.—By cart early in the morning to Tennankuriyáwa, about half a mile north of Anamaduwa and adjoining the minor road running to Nawagattégama. Here I fixed upon a site for the new paraṇgi hospital and set about 100 men to work clearing the jungle. The site is a very good one. There is a tank about 300 yards away, a tract of abandoned paddy fields on the south and south-west, road on the west, forest on the north and east. The site is therefore sheltered from the keen north-east wind, and open to the more healthy south-west. A few large trees will be left standing (including two or three ebony) to give shade to the buildings and grounds. About six acres will be cleared.

Rode on to Mahauswęwa. The masonry work is excellent, contrasting favourably with the old masonry which looked very solid outside, but when broken down showed that it was filled up by irregular blocks of stone in a mass of what I suppose was called mortar, with huge interstices between the stone. A very extensive increase has been made in the area of masonry spill, and a great mass of rock is being blasted away. Altogether the work strikes one as thoroughly good.

February 10.—Rode back to Tennankuriyáwa early in the morning. A good portion of the jungle has been cleared, but unfortunately not all. Laid out the large block of buildings intended for the hospital. It looks an enormous size. Found it rather difficult working without rope, as I could only get jungle creepers, and I had to wait while some of the rubbish (cut bushes) was being cleared away. I then laid out the kitchens and the two latrines. I could not do more as it was getting late. (I only got breakfast at 2 P.M.! and the jungle was not cleared.) Got back to Tónigala at 3.30 just as the rain commenced, and then we had a regular downpour which lasted nearly the whole night.

February 11.—Back again early in the morning to Tennankuriyáwa and found all the rest of the jungle cleared (by communal labour) though the space allowed was not quite sufficient. Found that a herd of buffaloes has been in the night and knocked down my stakes and pulled up the creepers used for rope. So I had all the lines trenched out and then set to work with the other buildings: Doctor's quarters and kitchens, Dispenser's quarters, Surgery, &c. Finished work about 1 o'clock.

I find the people are much elated at the rain which fell last night, which they say ought to be sufficient to save their crops.

After the work at Tennankuriyáwa was finished I went to the gaṇsabháwa court and delivered acts of recognition to the vel-vidánes who have lately been lawfully elected under the Paddy Cultivation Ordinance. I found last year that not a single vidáne lawfully elected existed throughout the division, so I had this made straight, and I urged upon the newly-elected vidánés the importance of their functions, and their power of contributing towards the general welfare of the District if they attend to the work of improvement of tanks and other irrigation matters.

Took up a few more claims for exemptions and petitions, and then returned to Tónigala. Had heavy rain again in the afternoon.

NORTH-CENTRAL PROVINCE.

REVENUE ADMINISTRATION REPORT OF THE GOVERNMENT AGENT, NORTH-CENTRAL PROVINCE, FOR 1887.

SUMMARY OF WORK DONE.

January.—IN this month I made a long circuit for general revenue purposes in the south of the Province, and several of the ancient irrigation works were carefully examined by me with a view to their subsequent utilisation.

(1) The great stone anicut over the Malwatu-oya, near Galkaḍawala. This remains almost complete, as the river has cut a new bed north-east of it. The work was probably designed to feed the Yóda-ęla, which led north from Tissawęwa towards the Mannár District.

(2) A large irrigation channel which ran north from an anicut on the Mirisgóni-oya, near Bulágala, passing seven tanks on the way to the large storage tank, Máminiyáwa.

(3) Great stone anicut over the Kalá-oya, called Yakábęṇḍi-ęla. This diverted water into the Wanni hatpattuwa of the North-Western Province. One-half of it, formed of finely cut stone faced with brick up-stream, remains perfect. The other half was evidently a wooden kalingula, which could be regulated in flood time.

(4) The fine (abandoned) tank Kaṭṭiyáwa, which the people propose to restore. It is in perfect working order if the spills were cleared and the breach, which is not extensive, were filled. It is part of the Yóda-ęla system, and must have served at least 1,000 acres.

February.—I visited the Padaviya tank and inspected 126 village tanks and irrigation works in the north.

March.—After visiting Kaláwęwa made a circuit in the east and inspected forty-five village tanks.

April.—The usual sales were held and Road Ordinance labour was employed on the main roads. The low-level sluice of Tissawęwa, which had not been repaired when the tank was restored, was uncovered and the culvert was made water-tight. Clearing of jungle round Anurádhapura proceeded.

May.—Inspected village tanks in Ulagalla kóralé; arranged for the celebration of Her Majesty's jubilee; and restored a bathing pokuna for men and women at Anurádhapura. In the end of the month I traced the course of the great channel which, starting from the Yóda-ęla at Kęlé Tirappane under the name of Talawa-ęla, finally reaches the sea in the Puttalam District as the Módaragam-áru. By a most ingenious and skilful utilisation of its waters fifteen large tanks were supplied along its channel, until its course was diverted by a tékkam near the Puttalam boundary, and the water which flowed due west was sent south to feed the tanks in Vilachchiya kóralé.

June.—This month was chiefly spent at Anurádhapura making preparations for the jubilee celebration, which was held on the 28th with great enthusiasm. The three holidays were employed in sports, games, native theatrical performances, fireworks, &c., and magnificent weather much contributed to the success of the celebration.

July.—The work of restoration of the sluices of Nuwarawęwa was carried on. His Excellency the Governor visited the Province, travelling by the North road and the new Trincomalee road. In the end of the month, together with the Provincial Engineer, I inspected thirty-three village tanks, the sluices of which were repaired last year.

August.—Chiefly engaged in examination of lands suitable for sale after extension of the channels under Tissawęwa and Basawakkulam, of which surveys were then carried out.

September.—Went to Trincomalee and verified the contents of the timber depôt of this Province. Visited some forests near Alut-oya with the Conservator of Forests and then made a long circuit through Tammankaḍuwa.

October.—Was chiefly engaged in seeing after the extension of the high-level channel of Tissawęwa to serve the lands recently sold along the Kurunęgala road near Alankulama. After a drought of nearly a year the rains commenced with a sharp storm, which broke a large branch off the great bó-tree.

November.—Was chiefly engaged in making inquiry in the Eppáwala kóralé regarding a petition from a few villagers complaining of having to clear the Yóda-ęla canal which supplies water to their tanks. I was satisfied that there were no grievances to redress, and that the work was for the benefit of the petitioners. Visited Kaláwęwa, which was full to spill-level, and sent down water by the canal to fill the tanks below.

December.—The early part of the month was chiefly devoted to examination of the lands under Nuwarawęwa and the probable course of the channels to be surveyed. On the 16th Mr. Wrightson arrived by boat from Kaláwęwa, having come the entire distance by the Yóda-ęla canal. On the 18th heavy rain commenced and continued for three days. During the week 24 in. were recorded against an average of 7 in. for the whole month. The consequence was a disastrous and unprecedented flood. The Malwatu-oya overflowed and did much damage, while 180 village tanks were breached.

REVENUE.

It will be seen from the statements annexed that the year under review was so unfavourable to agriculture that both the revenue and the people suffered. In my report for 1886 I remarked

that, owing to the failure of the north-east monsoon in the end of that year, no maha harvest could be expected in 1887. It was hoped that the south-west monsoon in April–May would give a yala harvest. This, however, was very partial, and only some of the upper tanks of each chain filled. The chena crops were lost and the people had only the accumulations of previous years and the water of storage tanks to save them from famine. But the October rains fell in sufficient quantity and the people subsequently realised an excellent chena crop.

I have already spoken of the great flood of December which did so much damage. One hundred and eighty village tanks breached, and this loss falls chiefly on the people who have to restore the breaches. Only three sluices were carried away, which will be replaced at Government expense. No bridges were destroyed, but the roads suffered considerably in places from the rush of the water over them. The Kalâwewa works, just completed, nobly stood the strain. Although 4½ ft. of water went over the great spill wall, and the roar of the river was audible twelve miles away, no damage was done.

A more unfortunate year for the Province can hardly be imagined. The lessons to be drawn from it are evident. A drought of nearly eighteen months, followed by a destructive flood, would naturally cause severe distress and famine. Under such circumstances, either the people must have died or Government must have given relief works and seed paddy at great and often useless expenditure, or the people must have gone as paupers and vagrants to other Districts. But none of these three results followed: and the reason is, that owing to the restoration of the village tanks and the irrigation works connecting them, the people had sufficient food stored to save them. I consider the results of this year conclusive as to the great advance made in the food supply of the people compared with what happened in much less unfavourable circumstances in 1877. It will be seen that, notwithstanding the failure of the rains, not only were relief works unnecessary, but a sum of Rs. 25,045·25 was realised by the Crown share of the rice crop. I venture to think that fifteen years ago, under similar circumstances, not a cent would have been received.

There is a decrease under the head *Land Sales*. In this year the people were not able to purchase the lands for which they had applied. They in many cases deposited the survey fees and asked time to complete the purchase, which, of course, I had to allow. The number of village applications is very satisfactory. I annex the usual statement elsewhere.

The arrack rent was increased by Rs. 1,956·65, which I attribute to the number of Tamil coolies employed on the public works and settlers who have come to cultivate lands sold by the Crown.

The decrease in *Stamps* is only apparent, owing to changes in the vending of stamps direct from Colombo.

Timber, usually a large source of revenue, shows a considerable decrease, owing to a less demand for the higher class wood. The decrease in Water-rate was due to the non-completion of Kalâwewa and consequent non-supply of water to the Anurádhapura tanks.

The total revenue collected was Rs. 120,507·34, and comparison with the figures for the last ten years (annexed) shows a very fair result, considering what I have stated above.

EXPENDITURE.

There was a decrease of Rs. 30,207·84, which was due chiefly to the decrease in the *Revenue* and *Forest Services* of Rs. 39,085·14 when compared with that of 1886. There was also a decrease of expenditure under the following heads, viz., *Office Contingencies* Rs. 303·78, *Transport* Rs. 581·85. There was an apparent excess of expenditure under the head *Provisional Salaries* of Rs. 9,521·38. This is chiefly owing to the transfer of the salaries of the Presidents to this head from that of *Administration of Justice*, also that of the pay of the coolies and kanganies of the Forest Department, which had hitherto been charged against *Revenue Services*; and *Prison Services*, Rs. 3,917·32. This is owing to the employment of a greater number of prisoners in clearing ruins and restoring ancient and important works, clearing the jungle round Anurádhapura, and on irrigation works.

FOOD SUPPLY OF THE PEOPLE.

There can be no doubt that the people prefer the grains grown in chenas to rice, and that a large proportion of the rice grown is exported. I think I am quite within a fair estimate when I say that half the population lives entirely on chena-grown grain, such as kurakkan, amu, Indian corn, medéri, undu, mun, mé, tana, &c. The paddy grown during the year I estimate at about 260,000 bushels and the kurakkan at 101,250 bushels. It is difficult to estimate the yield of the other grains (amu, medéri), but it is very considerable. The people sell most of the rice they grow to traders from Jaffna, Trincomalee, Kurunégala, and Mátalé, partly for money and partly by exchange for salt, salt fish, cloths, cocoanuts, and arecanuts. The money provides for the purchase of small pieces of Crown land adjacent to the old fields under the village tanks. Tala (gingelly) is very largely grown for export, and is both sold and bartered. During the year about 1,000 acres of Crown land were sold in small lots of two and three acres to villagers. The survey fees for a considerable extent have been deposited, which do not appear in the receipts of revenue for the year, but will be brought to account later on when the sales are completed. Of small lots sold in previous years about 950 acres were cleared for rice cultivation.

Along with the improvement of the village tanks goes the increase in cocoanut trees. They require not exactly irrigation, but moisture about the roots for most part of the year.

I estimate the present acreage at about 1,500 acres, and gardens at about 5,900 acres.

I hoped to have obtained a supply of seed paddy from the Eastern Province, as a change of seed is very desirable, but this was prevented by the unfavourable seasons.

Imported rice is used only by the coolies employed on the public works and by settlers in the larger villages.

Paddy cost Re. 1·50 rising to Re. 1·75 per bushel, and rice was Rs. 4 per bushel.

Game was an important item in the food supply of the villager, but since firearms have become so numerous the trade in dried flesh, skins, and horns has vastly increased, and game has proportionally decreased. It is hoped that the recommendations of the Committee now sitting will suffice to meet the evil and protect the villager and prevent this rapid extermination of game.

Fish is largely eaten by the people. When the water in the tanks fails the villagers assemble with fishing baskets and catch immense quantities of fish, and this is divided among them according

to the village paggu. The fish seem to have the power of burying themselves deep in the mud, or they would soon be exterminated in tanks. I have been astonished to see tanks, which a few months before were perfectly dry, stocked with good-sized fish when it filled. Immense quantities of sprats are caught and dried. There are several fish which are bony and disagreeable. The best kinds are the "lúlá" and "walayá." The former is an eel-like fish and grows to about 8 or 10 lb. in the rivers, and averages 1½ lb. or 2 lb. in the tanks. The "walayá" is a fine fish which grows to an immense size, and is generally caught with a line and live bait. It has a faint taste of salmon, though the flesh is not firm and flaky. It has a broad flat head and long beard-like threads about the mouth, which is furnished with several rows of formidable teeth. I have never heard that any fish here are unwholesome at any time of the year as some kinds are in the up-country streams. A good deal of dried fish is sent from Tammankaḍuwa to other Districts.

Besides fish the tanks supply a considerable variety of wholesome vegetable food which I have personally tried and appreciate. The stalks of a small kind of lotus called "ólupiti" are boiled and eaten in curry. The fruit yields seeds called "tank-rice" (ólu-hál). The seeds and buds of the lotus are edible; the former (nelun-baṭu) are eaten both raw and cooked, the latter (dalu) raw. The kernel of the "caltharp" (vila-gas), an herb which grows in tanks, is excellent, and is largely eaten boiled or roast. The nut is bat-shaped, with three or two sharp thorns, whence its name (*Caltrapa bispinosa*).

Plantains are now being grown in nearly every village and flourish well near the irrigation channels.

The forests yield yams of various kinds and honey, which is diligently sought and divided, when found, according to ancient custom. They also supply a number of fruits for food and almost innumerable kinds of pungent leaves, which are used to flavour curries.

The chief fruits used are, kariwila, elabaṭu, tibboṭu (two kinds), tamarind, palu, kón, giritilla, mora, himbuṭu, dan, vira, karamba, diwul, péra, baṭu, waḍiga, kotalahimbuṭu, ṇmbilla, ratambila, múnamal, galmora, ulkenda, kaṭukeliya, eraminiyá, kętakála, kattamberiya, elipatta, ęṭamba, indi, and malaboṭu.

Among the jungle leaves used for curries are karupuncha, angunakola, tórakola, híręssadalu, munginiyanna, kirihenda, sáranakola, kaṭukuṭupalá, eramudu dalu, lóludalu, lólumal, líkola, mayilamal, kúrakola, tumbakola, karakola, mullakola, nápirittadalu, telkola, gotellakola, uḍattakola, polpalá, madukola, siyambaládalu, kaṭutampalá, pahangillakola, węlpenélakola, mánsawériya, gandaliyakola, palákola, diyaberaliya, and mahagenda.

VILLAGE TANKS.

I am glad to be able to report satisfactory progress in this the most important item in the provincial administration. The Superintendents, Messrs. Renganáthan and McDonnell, worked zealously, and the amount of earthwork done is very little below the high figures for the previous years (see statement), although many tanks in the northern division were exempted on account of the drought and scarcity of food. The earthwork season began on July 1 and finished on October 1 with a total of 478,225 cubic yards. In the southern division the earthwork figures for 1886 were exceeded by 1,881 cubic yards.

The earthwork was well done and systematically in sections, which were turfed at the proper slope wherever possible. A large number of tanks are practically completely restored, (about fifty), but I do not reckon them so until they are properly sloped and turfed. This the drought prevented. All the village tank bunds were "picketted" according to the number of the village paggu. Very good work was done in clearing timber on the outer slopes and reservations of tanks, eradicating stumps and roots and opening the natural spills (wán). A good deal remains to be done in opening these "wán" in order to enable the tanks to stand any specially severe flood or the bursting of a tank or tanks above them.

There were 958 village tanks on the list in restoration; and to these were added during the year, at the request of the people, 21 tanks in the southern division, and 14 in the northern division.

IRRIGATION.

The chief work of the year was the completion of Kaláwęwa, which had so far advanced in April that I was able to fill ten storage tanks by means of the Yóda-ęla. On December 16 the completed works began to fill the Anurádhapura tanks at the extreme end of the canal, 54 miles from Kaláwęwa.

Five main channels and extensions of main channels were formed to serve the lands sold under Tissawęwa and Basawakkulam. Twenty-two large village tanks (*vide* statement) were provided with iron pipe sluices at a cost of about Rs. 1,200 each.

I have referred to the restoration of Nuwarawęwa elsewhere—an easy and inexpensive work, which will very soon recoup its cost.

The sluices of eighteen village tanks were repaired and several kalingulas and spills were built or extended.

The Tissawęwa low-level sluice was repaired and improved.

Several distribution gates to irrigation channels and culverts wherever necessary were provided from the sum of Rs. 1,000 allowed to me for small works.

The people took up the repair and construction of some channels to supply their tanks, the principal of which were one to Kuḍáhammillęwa (Kalpé kóralé), and one at Tódámaḍuwa (Ulagalla kóralé). Several channels were examined, and will, if possible, be taken up next year.

The survey of the tanks and channels between Kaláwęwa and Anurádhapura, in the Yóda-ęla system, proceeded during the year, and will be most valuable when completed.

All the works were caried out by the Provincial Irrigation Board with the sanction of the Central Board.

FORESTS.

I annex a statement of revenue and expenditure, showing a profit of Rs. 31,779 with timber in depôts to the value of Rs. 65,668·52. The following are some remarks made by Mr. Alexander, the Forester:—

This season's demand for timber was very limited, but prices remained firm. At Trincomalee four sales were advertised, two giving large results, and from offers received at other times good transactions were effected.

The ebony market was keen, and 811 logs (358 tons) realised from Rs. 60 to Rs. 120 per ton. Satinwood, 421 logs (10,000 cubic feet), sold from 80c. to Re. 1·25 per cubic foot. Sales of other woods were chiefly to the Royal Engineer, Naval Yard, and Public Works Department. At Anurádhapura the Public Works Department were the only purchasers.

In April and May the Dambulla depôt was supplied with 200 halmilla (8,356 cubic feet), which sold in November at splendid prices from 60c. to 92c. per cubic foot, due to the brisk competition among the Colombo cask contractors who attended the sale.

The attention of Government should be directed to the importance of conserving and increasing our halmilla plantations, for the demand of this "our premier" commercial wood is growing more and more every year. With the extending cultivation of the cocoanut palm, the wood is much used for oil casks, and will always be preferred to teak.

ROAD ORDINANCE.

The statement shows the working of the Ordinance in this Province to have been as successful as in the previous two years. Only twelve defaulters were imprisoned. The balance unaccounted for (288) chiefly belonged to Tammankaḍuwa, and they will be accounted for by special labour at Polonnáruwa in 1888.

PROVINCIAL ROAD COMMITTEE.

The funds of the Committee were chiefly employed in the construction of a section of the Western minor road and the erection of a new resthouse at Anurádhapura. The minor roads were cleared of jungle at a cost of Rs. 1,522·78.

JAILS.

The condition of the two prisons was satisfactory. The temporary prison at Mihintalé where twenty-five men were kept in constant employment, has proved a good example of how prison labour can be utilised in the jungle on reproductive works. I would like to see a similar one started at Minnéri, where the men could be employed in clearing and cultivating 500 or 1,000 acres The jails were healthy, and the death-rate compares favourably with that of any others in the Island. The prisoners were chiefly employed on irrigation channels, archæological excavation and restoration, and in clearing jungle. There were no escapes during the year.

PROPOSED PUBLIC WORKS.

I have no special works to recommend, but repeat the list of former years, excluding the works sanctioned:—

1. The making of the road from Anurádhapura to Kurunégala in sections.
2. The restoration of the canal leading from Balaluwęwa to the North-Western Province.
3. The restoration of Huruluwęwa.
4. A resthouse on the road from Puttalam to Trincomalee, near Horawapotana.
5. The clearing of forest round the town of Anurádhapura, and formation of a park of 500 acres to expose and preserve the ruins and structures still buried in the jungle.
6. Water supply by pipes to the town from Tissawęwa.
7. Building a new hospital.
8. A wall round the general cemetery.
9. Extension of the road from Kalwęwa to Galewela.

VILLAGE COMMUNITIES.

I have only to state that the remarks made in my last report might be repeated as regards the year under review, and that the working of the Committees and Presidents was most satisfactory, One new piṇ-pára was opened from Kirigollęwa to Rambęwa, and the others were kept clear and in good order.

RAILWAY EXTENSION.

I am glad to see that this has been taken up and urged by residents of the Northern Province. One of two routes must, in my opinion, be selected, either *viá* Polgahawela, Kurunęgala, and Maradankaḍawala, or *viá* Mátalé, Dambulla, and Maradankaḍawala. Whether such extension to Jaffna would pay or not, I must leave the Government Agent of the Northern Province to affirm. I have no means of knowing what traffic passes through this Province. There are no tolls the price of which would be a guide, and the roads to the other Provinces are very numerous. But as regards the interests of this Province I have no hesitation in saying that the route *viá* Kurunęgala would best serve it and attract most traffic. Such a line would run in almost directly north to Maradankaḍawala, the most prosperous bazaar on the North road, passing a little to the west of Kaláwęwa, avoiding the spurs of the hills and running through the flat country. If a branch line were to run to Trincomalee that station would be nearer to Maradankaḍawala than Dambulla. The line would then pretty well follow the direction of the North road passing within three miles or so of Anurádhapura. A branch line from Maḍawachchiya to Mannár, the present cooly route, would probably secure the cooly and other Indian traffic.

Such a line as I recommend would save traffic a distance of 34 miles in the distance between Anurádhapura and Polgahawela (as it now goes *viá* Mátalé), while the incline would be avoided as well as the heavy gradients between Dambulla and Mátalé.

A line from Mátalé northward would not equally well serve this Province, chiefly owing to the greater mileage, and partly because this Province draws the largest proportion of its supplies from the North-Western Province. The mileage may be taken, Anurádhapura to Polgahawela *viá* Kandy, 114 miles; Anurádhapura to Polgahawela *viá* Kurunégala, 80 miles. A line *viá* Chilaw would scarcely serve this Province in the slightest degree, as it would hardly bring the Puttalam salt and dry fish near enough to do away with cart traffic. I have supplied figures to the Commission now sitting, which I hope will show that the exports and imports of this Province are considerable enough to make them an important item in their calculations. Timber, which has now to be laboriously transported to Trincomalee for shipment to Colombo and Jaffna, would certainly go by rail to Colombo. The trade might be enormously increased with facilities for transport, and the supplies of valueless timber (such as víra) for firewood are practically inexhaustible. The palu (ironwood) trees, if properly treated, would, I am convinced, be found cheaper and better for railway sleepers than the satinwood now used. The palu is one of the commonest woods of the Province. I observed last year that the coolies to and from the estates used carts, and that quite a traffic sprung up along

the road. The coolies are carried along at one and a half cent per head per mile. So I presume that advances to the coming were liberal, and savings of the departing were large.

PUBLIC WORKS.

I annex the customary statement of works and expenditure. I have only to add that the roads were kept in satisfactory order during the year. The re-erection of the Kalá-oya bridge, which has been two years in construction, is not a success, and it is believed that considerable expenditure must be incurred before it is again fit for traffic.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The number of deaths registered was 2,105 and births 2,927. The birth-rate is the highest recorded during the last fifteen years. The first nine months of the year were very healthy, and the death-rate would have been exceptionally low were it not that the last three months of the year were very unhealthy, and fever of an exceedingly severe and unremitting type appeared after the rains began to succeed a prolonged drought.

General marriages were 14; Kandyan marriages, 1,080; Kandyan marriages in 1886, 701.

I desire to repeat my suggestion of the previous year as to the necessity for itinerant medical assistants capable of treating fever, ulcers, worms, &c. I have distributed large quantities of quinine, and I think much good would be done by native medical practitioners if liberally supplied with this medicine.

There was no epidemic of either cholera or smallpox.

ARCHÆOLOGY.

During the year gangs of prisoners were employed in keeping the ruins, already cleared, free of jungle, and some additional clearing was made near Jétawanáráma.

I caused search to be made for the royal palace, the ruins of which have never been identified. The jungle north of the outer circle has not been carefully examined. The density of the jungle, and the time which the search would require under an experienced person, leaves this for the future. My search was incomplete and inconclusive, but I came upon some most interesting buildings on quite a different plan from that of the structures in the sacred portion of the ancient city. There are about two square miles of jungle to be searched, but there can be no doubt, according to the records, that the palace will be found somewhere about two miles north of the Maha Viháré, and everything goes to show that the extensive ruins which stretch from the Kuṭṭan-pokuna to the so-called "stone canoes" are the remains of that great monastery.

A preliminary list, still incomplete, was prepared and sent by order to Government of the ruins and ancient structures and inscriptions still remaining in the Province.

I obtained a number of cave inscriptions in the Asóca literation and dating from about the Christian era, but none were of any historic interest, being chiefly dedicatory inscriptions by unknown persons.

I examined the caves on Dimbulágalla (Gunner's Quoin) in Tammankaḍuwa, which are extremely curious, and were once the site of a large Buddhist monastery. The paintings are still visible and exceptionally well executed in black and white, and not in the well-known yellow, &c In the early part of the year the Demala Maha Sáya at Polonnáruwa was cleared out by Mr. Murray, Provincial Engineer, and the paintings which still remain were copied by him.

The fine cut-stone "altar" on the west of the Mirisaweṭi Dágoba, which was in an insecure and threatening condition, was carefully taken down stone by stone. The brickwork at the top was shored up and preserved. A firm concrete foundation was laid, and the structure was then replaced, and shows hardly any trace of the restoration.

The chief works of the year were the continuation of the task of securing the dágobas of Mihintalé and Abhayagiriya from further dilapidation. Work at the former ceased when the rains began in October, as the men were unable to make brick until the weather cleared. At the latter the work of strengthening the base of the tee (or "kota") proceeded satisfactorily.

I had long been anxious to carry out Mr. Dickson's wish that search should be made in the Abhayagiri dágoba for the books which tradition asserts were placed there. While the work of restoration and preservation was being carried on at the summit, it seemed a favourable opportunity for commencing this search. Accordingly, with the assent of Government and that of the chief Buddhist authorities, lay and ecclesiastical, the work began in May. I was guided by the results of the excavation of the Menikyála Stupa (*vide* Fergusson) in the method of proceedure: a tunnel was started 33 ft. above the level of the paved courtyard ("maluwa") and carried 54 yards to the centre. From thence a vertical shaft was sunk to the level of the maluwa. I cannot here give a minute description of the work, which must be done elsewhere. It must suffice to mention that no valuable deposit was found, although a large collection was obtained of articles of antiquarian interest which appear to have been *ex voto* offering made while the structure was in building. The search is being continued and is still incomplete.

GENERAL REMARKS.

I have but little to add to the remarks made at the end of my last report. It is right I should point to a satisfactory proof of progress, which is evident in the desire of the people to take up the improvement and cultivation of abandoned Crown tanks. The favourable terms sanctioned this year by Government have been gladly accepted, and I have numerous applications from villagers to be allowed to restore tanks on those conditions. The value of labour done in clearing the bund and spills and filling up the breach is estimated, and the labourers are given an extent of arable land at Rs. 10 an acre, equivalent to the value of the labour. The reason alleged by the applicants is that the arable land of the village is not sufficient for the growing population. If this reason is correct, and I see no reason to doubt it, it is very satisfactory.

However, I discourage the attempt to commence restoration of tanks which are beyond the power of the villagers from their size or great water supply, and prefer that they should complete the restoration of the tank of the inhabited village before beginning work on another.

Anurádhapura Kachchéri,
April 18, 1888.

R. W. IEVERS,
Acting Government Agent.

APPENDIX.

1.—Statement of Expenditure on Public Works in the North-Central Province during 1887.

	Rs.	c.
Balance of previous years	28,863	21
Supply Bill, 1887	93,680	23
Supplementary Supply Bill, 1887	30,811	12
Loan Board vote	7,111	69
Savings Bank loan	147,004	59
Road Ordinance funds	13,343	32
Against votes allowed to the Government Agent	515	31
Total ...	321,329	47

2.—Statement of Expenditure on Irrigation Works during 1887.

	Rs.	c.
For Kalávęwa sluices	8,663	66
Spill wall across Kalá-oya	124,973	95
Rebuilding sluices at Balaluwęwa	13,366	98
Restoration of Nuwarawęwa	30,178	2
Providing masonry works for village tanks	23,145	90
Salaries and other charges	12,630	56
Maintenance of large works ... ... / Maintenance of village tanks	10,565	37
For channels repairs, &c.	9,610	80
Total ...	233,135	24

3.—Statement of Revenue from 1878 to 1887.

Heads of Revenue.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs c.
Arrears of Revenue	105	—	—	943	61	49	473 78	—	32 48	—
Land Sales ...	1,438	2,921	2,528	4,503	3,626	8,715	9,236 74	10,846 68	10,125 85	7,950 70
Land Revenue ...	46,193	13,834	24,883	29,515	29,265	42,427	26,654 56	43,909 72	41,992 56	26,223 40
Rents, exclusive of Land ...	1,860	2,032	1,936	1,436	1,757	1,836	1,911 84	1,857 37	1,833 79	2,000 71
Licenses ...	16,750	15,050	10,292	9,025	7,249	6,975	8,414 19	11,497 56	14,938 35	16,995 0
Stamps ...	4,994	5,643	4,750	3,073	3,390	6,515	3,917 75	5,896 83	6,329 82	5,360 25
Postal ...	52	75	71	1,077	1,181	1,031	1,198 12	65 97	70 88	75 79
Fines and Forfeitures	1,238	934	1,466	757	1,025	659	711 40	528 75	686 71	930 62
Sale of Government Property ...	49,562	94,120	58,002	26,047	12,774	40,182	42,015 54	87,209 17	89,560 6	57,979 23
Reimbursements ...	861	280	375	1,387	1,092	1,567	2,239 19	2,189 33	2,977 3	1,600 6
Interest ...	19	990	38	62	12	13	24 11	112 63	183 81	72 57
Miscellaneous ...	1,252	67	1,632	969	715	1,690	513 49	997 95	1,592 19	1,154 37
Special Receipts ...	14	20	21	145	44	181	289 14	146 30	446 52	159 64
Total ...	124,338	135,996	105,994	78,939	62,191	111,840	97,594 85	165,258 26	170,770 5	120,502 34

4.—Statement of Expenditure from 1878 to 1887.

Heads of Expenditure.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Fixed Salaries ...	19,589	19,819	19,458	19,749	19,537	19,160	18,766	19,200 77	18,971 96	19,143 9
Provisional and Temporary Salaries ...	20,163	23,379	27,735	28,004	25,045	20,746	22,403	22,051 93	22,834 12	32,355 50
Office Contingencies ...	650	710	535	768	793	549	542	937 28	872 77	569 9
Pensions and Retired Allowances	240	240	240	91	800	800	800	800 0	800 0	800 0
Revenue Services	26,129	56,162	31,834	19,964	27,573	40,238	46,643	28,039 60	59,585 49	4,446 44
Administration of Justice ...	1,007	737	5,880	7,403	5,971	6,356	7,055	6,074 11	5,867 8	1,617 15
Charitable Allowances ...	61	—	—	—	—	—	10	17 0	138 0	156 0
Hospital and Sanitation ...	440	3	611	443	217	157	236	180 0	34 34	131 13
Prison Services ...	1,221	1,244	2,203	1,319	3,176	4,608	6,278	8,463 7	11,383 75	15,301 7
Transport ...	5,064	4,854	6,289	6,052	4,835	3,883	4,748	6,103 78	5,534 15	4,952 30
Forest Services ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	16,053 91
Conveyance of Mails ...	9,425	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous ...	—	10,616	5,895	5,354	4,740	3,278	3,398	3,441 75	3,433 30	2,915 51
Immigration ...	13,027	11,266	8,551	9,033	9,026	7,816	8,174	8,894 82	9,296 10	10,102 3
Total ...	97,016	129,030	109,231	100,180	101,713	107,591	119,057	104,204 11	138,751 6	108,543 22

5.—Statement of Land Sales from 1878 to 1887.

			For Paddy.	For Gardens.	For Building Sites.	Total.
1878	Lots sold ...	No.	31	22	4	57
	Extent ...	Acres	298	89	4	391
	Amount of sale	Rs.	3,303	1,105	250	4,658
	Average per acre	"	11·10	12·35	56·98	11·91
1879	Lots sold ...	No.	21	1	10	32
	Extent ...	Acres	90	—	12	102
	Amount of sale	Rs.	1,098	18	2,027	3,143
	Average per acre	"	12·24	53·33	169·49	30·81
1880	Lots sold ...	No.	41	4	—	45
	Extent ...	Acres	299	40	—	339
	Amount of sale	Rs.	4,129	487	—	4,616
	Average per acre	"	13·81	12·17	—	12·99
1881	Lots sold ...	No.	126	6	9	141
	Extent ...	Acres	493	10	3	506
	Amount of sale	Rs.	6,403	155	647	7,205
	Average per acre	"	12·98	14·81	232·75	14·24
1882	Lots sold ...	No.	48	2	2	52
	Extent ...	Acres	222	2	—	224
	Amount of sale	Rs.	3,108	42	233	3,383
	Average per acre	"	14·00	21·00	1,649 09	15·10
1883	Lots sold ...	No.	101	9	41	151
	Extent ...	Acres	818	15	6	839
	Amount of sale	Rs.	12,082	220	3,991	16,293
	Average per acre	"	14·77	14·66	665·16	19·42
1884	Lots sold ...	No.	125	7	—	132
	Extent ...	Acres	772	10	—	782
	Amount of sale	Rs.	11,580	167	—	11,747
	Average per acre	"	15·00	16·70	—	15·00
1885	Lots sold ...	No.	201	7	33	241
	Extent ...	Acres	1,375	33½	1½	1,410
	Amount of sale	Rs.	16,174	490	1,031	17,695
	Average per acre	"	11·76	14·62	687·66	12·50
1886	Lots sold ...	No.	89	8	2	99
	Extent ...	Acres	598·506	20·643	·53	619·203
	Amount of sale	Rs.	6,638	282	126	7,046
	Average per acre	"	11·09	13·66	237·73	11·37
1887	Lots sold ...	No.	133	9	4	146
	Extent ...	Acres	959	29	1	989
	Amount of sale	Rs.	10,512	343	339	11,194
	Average per acre	"	10·96	11·82	339·00	11·31

NOTE.—There were 103 applications for Crown Land in 1887.

6.—Return of Village Tanks provided with Sluices.

Year.	Number of Tanks.	Number of Sluices.	Number of Permanent Kalingulas.	Total Cost of Sluices and Kalingulas. Rs.	c.	Average Cost per Tank. Rs.	c.
1875	19	19	2	21,199	23	1,115	74
1876	28	29	6	30,823	97	1,100	85
1877	27	27	8	29,920	23	1,108	15
1878	41	41	11	55,044	38	1,342	54
1879	42	47	26	62,204	17	1,481	5
1880	28	29	—	40,779	12	1,456	39
1881	14	14	—	19,612	36	1,400	88
1882	—	—	—	1,838	93	—	
1883	19	20	1	18,327	99	964	63
1884	9	9	—	25,232	24	2,803	58
1885	9	9	1	13,099	0	1,455	44
1886	2	6	—	7,039	23	1,173	20
1887	22	24	—	28,640	4	1,301	82
Total	260	274	55	353,760	89	1,360	61

7.—Earthwork done by Villagers from 1874 to 1887.

Year.	Cubic Yards.	Value at 30c. per cubic yard. Rs.	c.	Year.	Cubic Yards.	Value at 30c. per cubic yard. Rs.	c.
1874	11,255	3,376	50	1883	551,795½	165,538	65
1875	97,824	29,347	20	1884	251,817	75,545	10
1876	325,168	97,550	40	1885	394,283¼	118,285	8
1877	421,105	126,331	50	1886	511,321	153,396	30
1878	436,016	130,804	80	1887	478,225	143,467	50
1879	183,955	55,186	50				
1880	514,846	154,453	80	Total	5,327,878 15/35	1,598,363	53
1881	584,305	175,291	50				
1882	565,962½	169,788	70				

8.—Expenditure on Irrigation Works from 1878 to 1886.

	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs. c.
Restoration of Bassawakulam ...	—	10,292	222	—	—	—	—	—	—
Restoration of Maḍawachchi ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Restoration of Tissawęwa and Yóda-ęla...	33,154	52,944	3,332	—	—	—	—	72,642	50,611 22
For Kalâwęwa sluices	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	49,000	86,256 71
Spill-wall across Kal-oya	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	51,958 14
Rebuilding sluices at Balaluwęwa ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	30,608 79
Restoration of Nuwarawęwa ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,063 51
Providing masonry works for Village Tanks	57,789	60,682	43,669	19,612	—	19,978	25,232	13,099	3,001 39
Surveys	11,536	5,701	3,701	—	70	151	2,882	400	408 27
Salaries and other charges ...	23,966	19,381	29,325	9,456	14,711	15,450	15,490	6,299	8,208 51
Maintenance of large works, &c. ...	1,321	2,993	3,813	4,107	4,117	3,891	3,959	3,980	15,226 67
Maintenance of Village Tanks ...	608	828	1,500	1,468	2,079	1,039	2,048	2,303	2,680 21
For channels repairs, &c. ...	—	—	—	—	4,559	—	1,497	3,125	7,816 40
Total ...	128,374	152,821	85,562	34,643	25,536	39,509	51,108	150,848	257,839 82

9.—Number of Tanks under Restoration.

Kóralés.	Number of Tanks.	Kóralés.	Number of Tanks.
Kadawat ...	75	Eppáwala ...	43
Kęndé ...	67	Kalágam ...	70
Kanadara ...	53	Máminiya ...	56
Ulagalla ...	56	Kiralawa ...	66
Mahapotána ...	57	Unduruwa ...	37
Kalpé ...	54	Nęgampaha ...	46
Kunjuṭṭu ...	47	Matombuwa ...	44
Uḍḍiyankulam ...	55		
Nuwaragam ...	62	Total ...	958
Willachchiya ...	70		

10.—List of Tanks sluiced during 1887.

Name of Tank.	Description of Work.	Kóralé.	When completed.	Cost. Rs.	c.
Muriyakalla ...	Sluiced ...	Ulagalla ...	February ...	1,158	54
Kuḍákanumulla ...	do. ...	do. ...	do. ...	1,158	24
Wellamudawa ...	do. ...	do. ...	March ...	1,158	32
Kaṭṭamarichcham ...	do. ...	do. ...	do. ...	1,156	22
Kónwęwa ...	do. ...	do. ...	do. ...	1,154	14
Wannamaḍuwa ...	do. ...	do. ...	August ...	1,210	34
Maha Kiribęwa ...	do. ...	Uḍḍiyankulam ...	March ...	1,154	16
Sewalakulama ...	do. ...	do. ...	April ...	1,154	18
Pahalakanhidigama ...	do. ...	do. ...	do. ...	1,197	63
Aswayabęndiwęwa ...	do. ...	do. ...	May ...	1,205	71
Galenbindunuwęwa ...	do. ...	do. ...	do. ...	1,230	68
Kannimaḍuwa ...	do. ...	do. ...	do. ...	1,230	68
Duṭuwęwa ...	do. ...	do. ...	do. ...	1,226	90
Kolongaswęwa ...	do. ...	do. ...	do. ...	1,230	20
Kawarakkulama ...	do. ...	do. ...	June ...	1,219	79
Wannankulama ...	do. ...	do ...	do. ...	1,204	0
Muriyakalla ...	do. ...	do. ...	do. ...	1,195	0
Morakkęwa ...	do. ...	Kalpé ...	April ...	1,188	36
Bałondawęwa ...	Resluiced ...	Kęndé ...	June ...	1,128	43
Maḍawęlla ...	Sluiced ...	Matombuwa ...	November ...	1,364	2
Senadiriyagama ...	do. ...	do. ...	August ...	1,174	26
Yakkalla ...	do. ...	do. ...	October ...	1,154	58
Maha Kambęwa ...	do. ...	do. ...	do. ...	1,168	15
Habba Diulwęwa ...	do. ...	do. ...	September ...	1,217	51

11.—Statement of Receipts and Expenditure on account of Timber for 1887.

RECEIPTS.	Amount. Rs.	c.	Total. Rs.	c.
Value of timber sold at Anurádhapura	4,211	17		
Do. Trincomalee ...	42,526	99		
Do. Dambulla ...	4,687	22		
			51,425	38
Value of sleepers supplied to the Railway Department...	—		4,341	27
Value of timber felled on bunds and communal roads	1,413	98		
Value of timber destroyed in hén and felled without license	348	97		
Royalty on timber licenses issued	370	48		
			2,133	43
Value of timber sold in 1887 and outstanding on December 31, 1887 ...	—		1,635	99
Estimated value of timber in depôt on December 31, 1887, less cost of felling and removing	65,518	52		
Estimated value of cut timber in jungles, less cost of felling and removing ...	150	0		
			65,668	52
Total ...			125,204	59

EXPENDITURE.	Amount. Rs.	c.	Total. Rs.	c.
Pay of Forester for 1887 ...	3,500	0		
Allowance	750	0		
			4,250	0
Pay of Assistant Forester ...	833	33		
Allowance	200	0		
			1,033	33
Allowance to Disáwa for supervising forests in Tamankaḍuwa district ...	—		360	0
Pay of Head Overseer ...	840	0		
Do. Second Overseer ...	600	0		
			1,440	0
Do. Kanganies and Guides	300	0		
Do. Coolies ...	2,158	50		
Do. two peons ...	480	0		
			2,938	50
Cost of felling and removing timber paid to contractors...	16,006	31		
Contingencies, cost of telegrams, advertisements, &c.	92	0		
			16,098	31
Gain on actual transactions ...	—		31,779	94
To amount to be recovered ...	—		1,635	99
Estimated value of cut timber in hand on December 31, 1887, less cost of felling and removing as per contract ...	—		65,668	52
Total ...			125,204	59

NOTE.—The value of timber in hand on December 31, 1886, less cost of felling and removing, was Rs. 93,983·54.

12.—Return of Local Revenues raised and appropriated under the authority of the Provincial Road Committee of the North-Central Province, not accounted for in the General Revenue of the Colony, for 1887.

REVENUE.	Amount. Rs.	c.	Total. Rs.	c.
Balance on January 1, 1887 ...	3,486	43		
Advances outstanding ...	12,692	29		
			16,178	72
Collected for the year 1887 under the provisions of "The Road Ordinance of 1861 Amendment Ordinance of 1884," viz :—				
Commutation realised in money ...	25,434	0		
Do. in labour ...	1,071	0		
Do. of previous years collected in 1887 ...	100	50		
Miscellaneous ...	138	91		
			26,744	41
Resthouses.				
Balance under this head on January 1, 1887 ...	1,850	30		
Collections in 1887 ...	1,027	49		
			2,877	79
Market.				
Balance under this head on January 1, 1887 ...	1,559	34		
Collections in 1887 ...	767	26		
			2,326	60
Total ...			48,127	52

EXPENDITURE.	Amount. Rs.	c.	Total. Rs.	c.
Payments made on account of principal roads and resthouses from commutation money during the year 1887 under the provisions of "The Road Ordinance of 1861 Amendment Ordinance of 1884" ...	15,527	55		
Minor roads	8,915	32		
			24,442	87
General Charges.				
Pay of the establishment, including pay of superintendent of minor roads ...	2,200	0		
Percentage to division officers ...	3,115	38		
Petty expenses ...	335	2		
			5,650	40
Resthouses.				
Payments made in 1887 ...	—		2,213	50
Market.				
Payments made in 1887 ...	—		506	89
Balance of 1887 and previous years :—				
Balance on Road Ord. Funds	7,786	66		
Advances outstanding ...	5,043	20		
			12,829	86
Balance to credit of resthouses ...	—		664	29
Do. market ...	—		1,819	71
Total ...			48,127	52

13.—Statement illustrative of the working of the Amended Thoroughfares Ordinance, No. 31 of 1884, during 1887.

Number of Persons.	Nuwarakalaviya.	Tamankaḍuwa.	Total.
Shown in return prepared under section 3	18,198 ...	1,499 ...	19,697
Noticed to labour under section 13	1,801 ...	325 ...	2,126
Responded to notice under section 13	702 ...	12 ...	714
Noticed to perform double labour under section 14 ...	1,099 ...	313 ...	1,412
Exempted under section 7 ...	512 ...	48 ...	560
Arrested under section 16 ...	99 ...	— ...	99
Found guilty and sentenced to imprisonment under section 18	12 ...	— ...	12
Found guilty and fined under section 18	4 ...	— ...	4
Amount of fines recovered and credited to Government under section 19	Rs. 36 ...	— ...	Rs. 36
Commuted single labour under section 25	15,295 ...	1,087 ...	16,382
Amount of commutation of single labour paid under section 26 ...	Rs 22,942·50 ...	Rs. 1,630·50 ...	Rs. 24,573
Commuted double labour under section 25	269 ...	47 ...	316
Amount of commutation of double labour paid ...	Rs. 807 ...	Rs. 141 ...	Rs. 948
In default, and remaining unarrested under section 16 on December 31, 1887 ...	113 ...	175 ...	288

Abstract.

Exemptions	560
Double entries and erroneous entries (including deaths and absentees)	1,421
Paid at single rate	16,382
Worked	714
Paid at double rate	316
Imprisoned	12
Fined	4
Balance unaccounted for	288
Grand Total ...	19,697

Extracts from Diary.

January 14.—In the morning with the Raṭémahatmayá, Kórála, &c., rode to the villages in the south and to Kahalla. This is a fine village with about 100 acres of mud land, irrigated by a spring which rises in the range of hills close by and is held up by an "amuna" or dam. The sluice is a hollow log under the amuna, and in the tank side earthenware pipes are laid to take the water down to the log. This device is usual here and, I believe, in the neighbouring kóralés of the Kurunégala District. The stream below is dammed, and the water flows from the top through an old stone lion-head. Plenty of paddy and kurakkan in the villages I passed through.

In the afternoon went to inspect the school with the headmen. Twenty-two boys present: all neat and clean, and dressed as Kandyan boys should be. I examined them in reading, writing, arithmetic, and the geography of Ceylon, and they did very well—better, I think on the whole, than an average village school at home. The headmen said a school was required at Parawahagama, as it was too far for the children to come; but the people of that village, who were present, refused to have one; so I declined to force one on them. I rewarded the best boys in each class and spoke to the assembled crowd on many matters. Heard petitions and complaints.

January 15.—Started early riding to Kaláwęwa through the villages—

(1) Marasiyhahalmillęwa, close to Anḍiyágala. Bund fairly raised and one section sloped and turfed. I forgot to mention Anḍiyágala, which is a fine village with large cocoanut gardens and a general air of prosperity. The tank is a nice one with a large rock at one end, on which the Gaṇsabháwa is built. The bund is almost restored to its full height and is properly sloped, dressed, and turfed (unsluiced). This year should complete it.

(2) Hinguruwęwa. A nice small village with cocoanut and plantain gardens. Gaṇgoḍa clean and "thirty-fathoms" well cleared; bund was being turfed and raised in sections; cattlefolds and a well of good water; old viháré, but nothing worth mention.

(3) Digannégama. A small village. One section of bund completed and a little done on the rest.

(4) Kalu-árachchiyagama. Middle-sized village of dhobies Bund fairly well raised and in good order, but wants sloping and dressing. Gave orders to have the garden fences which encroach on the bund removed and the owners to take an equal extent from the other side of the "thirty-fathoms."

(5) Míwęwa. A fine large tank and populous village of dhobies. The bund has been well restored, and should be sluiced.

(6) and (7) Bellankaḍawala and Gónadeniyagama. The former is an upper tank and the latter one below it, each having fields. The Superintendent of Village Tanks recommends the latter to be given up as a tank and turned into a field, and on inspection I decided that this should be done; and as the shareholders of both tanks are the same, I decided that double work should be done on the upper tank, and I would not raise the Crown claim to the bed of the lower tank, which shall be divided as a village field and taxed at one-tenth.

(8) Kirindiwatta. A fine populous village, large fields, and good gardens. The tank is extensive, but is said not to fill sufficiently to irrigate all the fields at once, and complaints were made to me by the owners of the lower fields. It appears that this tank was formerly fed by an ęla which ran from a stone anicut on the Hęwanęla-oya (which flows to Balaluwęwa); when these works were destroyed the tank did not fill. It seems to me that we have completed the restoration of the village tanks. We must turn the village labour to the restoration of the works which fill them as soon as possible. The old bisókoṭuwa is in working order and needs no present repairs. Here the earthenware pipes were ingeniously used as in other tanks. They were inserted vertically in a mound of earth in front of the inlet-channel, and as the water falls the earth on top is removed and one pipe taken out, and so on. The yala crop of 1886 was still unthreshed here. Heard a number of disputes about a boundary and chena clearing across the ęla on land claimed by another village. As it was already decided by Mr. Dickson, I did not see any reason to go into the matter again.

(9) Heṭṭiyáwatta. A small village. Last yala unthreshed, and a good víhéna in the tank, which is long, but narrow and deep. Heard a complaint against the people of (8), who had put up a dam across the ela which divided the village, at a forbidden place, and so damaged the fields of (9). I fined the persons in default Rs. 30.

(10) Halmillęwa. Here I got into the piyupára to Kallanchiya, which I left at Anḍiyágala. This is a prosperous village and full of granaries—mostly half full—and the yala crop still unthreshed. The gaṇgoḍa is clean and the "thirty-fathoms" also. Stopped to breakfast at the Gaṇsabháwa, and then inspected the tank bund, and so on by village path to the extreme end of the Balaluwęwa bund, and so on to Kaláwęwa.

January 16.—Headmen recovering rent of boutiques, Rs. 306. The Raṭémahatmayá informs me in presence of all the headmen that the failure of rains is due to the desire of the gods that the work at Kaláwęwa might proceed as speedily as possible and without interruption! A Kórála yesterday on my way here told me this was the general opinion.

January 22.—We started early and rode to Kaṭṭiyáwa, passing the fine village of Mediyáwa, which has about 120 acres of paddy land. The fields were mudded for cultivation (męda) as there is water in the tank (sluiced). Kaṭṭiyáwa is just beyond the Pálugama (Kiwulgama)—an enormous tank. Bund is about 1¼ mile long and 50 ft. high. It has two stone sluices with bisókoṭu and two stone-faced spills, one 50 ft. and the other 100 ft. long, Each sluice had a spill near it. We walked the whole length of the bund, having men with katties with us, and examined it all carefully. The breach is near the centre, and is so small and easily dealt with that Mr. Wrightson estimated 300 or 400 cubes would fill it satisfactorily. The tank, though long abandoned and covered with heavy forest, is claimed by 162 paṇgu of other villages. About thirty years ago they combined and cleared 80 acres or so below it, and paid Tamil "tank-menders" to fill the two breaches, and the work was done; but unfortunately the people were so foolish as not to lower the ancient spills and clear the waṇ, so the water topped the filling of the larger breach and carried it all away. I have not seen any large tank so easy to restore as this one: there is no river into it, and one sluice is quite perfect and in working order. The paṇgukárayo working two years' work in one year could easily restore the breach; and after a survey the spills could be lowered 5 ft. or 6 ft. to the solid rock on which they are built, and the tank would hold up 17 ft. to 20 ft. head of water which now runs waste. I shall call the paṇgukárayo together later on and see what can be done, for this tank would hold sufficient for two years' cultivation even if one year's rain failed, as is now the case. I think it will be found that the dam had some connection with this tank. We worked our way along the north wána and found what must have been an ela going north or north-east, and probably the continuation of the ela from the river dam, or illipálama. As the old builders had no head sluices, so far as we can discover, they provided for the heavy flood that such a dam would send in by elaborate stone-faced spills such as we have here.

Returned to Eppáwala at noon. Afternoon, exemption: 70 applications and 21 exemptions. Then we started again and walked a couple of miles along the Yóda-ela and inspected the work done on the breaches of last year, which appeared to be satisfactory, and back *viâ* Kónwęwa and through the fields of Amunukola (about 100 acres).

February 1.—Started at dawn and rode to Padaviya breach (about 10 or 12 miles), all through forests, no villages. Mr. Fowler and I diverged to see the great tank of Nambakoḍa and a pillar inscription of which hunters spoke, and to which the Kórála had got a path cleared (about 2½ miles); and then returned to the path to Padaviya and reached the tank breach, where our camp was, about 2 P.M.

February 2.—Ascended Deyiyannekanda and had a superb view. Ritigala, 40 miles away, was visible as well as Mánakanda. Visited the ruins and sluices, &c. All paths well cleared, and the headmen deserve much credit.

February 3.—Left at dawn and rode to end of the plain, about two miles, and walked to Kębitigollęwa, 20 miles, halting for breakfast at Siṇhaulpota. A fine spring, ruins of a viháré, and a gurgoil and water channel. "Lion-spring" the village is called from the gurgoil. There was here lying an old English cannon—no history, but said to be here "from the Siṇhalese times": possibly from some vessel wrecked at Kokkilai or Mullaittívu, as it looked like a ship's gun.

February 4.—Rode in the morning by the piṇpára, which was in excellent order, to Ętakaḍa, and found that in digging a hole for a pandal the Kórála had come on some brass or copper articles, and had stopped digging until I came. We unearthed four copper or bronze "finials" of a viháré or paṇsala—the largest about 3 ft., the others smaller—several bronze (?) pieces of lamps, and a fine bronze "kendiya," or water-pot, about one foot high. In the afternoon to Maḍawachchiya, and drove thence to Anurádhapura.

March 22.—Visited Diyatittawęwa, a very fine tank with combined spill and sluice. About twelve families in the village. About ten years ago they nearly all died out, and there are no old men or women. They removed to another part of the village, and since then there has been no sickness, which I attribute to the fact of the operation of the rules as to restoration of the tank and clearing a space round the village. But they say it was the action of a demon who lived in a cave in the side of the rocky hill. They got a priest to live in it for some time, and he expelled the demon from the village. The cave has a kaṭṭaraya (water drip) and a dedicatory inscription in Asóka letters dating from about the first century A.D. Thence to Walahawiddawęwa ('tank where the bear was pierced'), a nindagama of Hurulle Banḍá. Work only commenced on it three years ago, when he put a number of Moormen to live there and cultivate. Bund is still ragged and badly cleared. Thence to Kumbukwęwa, a nindagama with only a few people: a very fine tank and a high bund between two hills. Thence to Paraṇgiyáwáḍiya ('the place where the Portuguese stayed,' but there is no record or tradition explaining it). This is a magnificent tank and, being surrounded by hills, is very picturesque. There is nearly a mile extent of fields below it.

March 27.—Rode with the Superintendent of Village Tanks through a number of villages:—Pahaladiwulwęwa, the subject of much correspondence last year. The sluice and culvert have not been yet filled in. The work, pointing in cement, &c., seemed to be good; ordered it to be filled in now. Mádaramaḍuwa, a pálugama, owned by people of Wagollakaḍa. Thence to Wagollakaḍa. This is the finest village I have seen in this kóralé. It is very fully planted with arecanuts, cocoanut, orange, &c., and the houses were clean and prosperous-looking. There are about 200 acres of mud land and an enormous tank. Owing to want of rain last year it is nearly dry, but has enough for the gardens. The old bisókoṭuwa is still working, and only a spill in masonry has been supplied. As the tank is so large no earthwork is required, so I ordered the work to be done on Mádaramaḍuwa, which can be restored in a couple of years easily in this manner. Palugaswęwa: a small tank and bund in good order. Below the bund is a curious bund of a channel which exists for about a mile or more towards Duṭuwęwa, but it is not now known for what purpose it was constructed. Duṭuwęwa, another large tank, beautifully situated between hills. Passed several trees with mud marks on them about 10 ft from the ground made by elephants rubbing themselves. Ambagaswęwa: a very large tank, but not so large as Wegollakanda, which was like a miniature Minnériya. The bund turns at a right-angle and forms as it were two continuous tanks. (Duṭuwęwa has two sluices, both in good order.) Returned in the evening, about fourteen miles in all.

March 28.—In the morning hearing petitions and receiving crowds of women from all the villages come to see "a lady." The Raṭémahatmayá brings in two tusks which were found in the skeleton of an elephant in 1884 and concealed by the villagers. Inspected measuring up of earthwork on this tank, and in the afternoon rode to Horawapotana. I am told the finding of dead elephants is not uncommon, as I supposed it was, and that some are found dead of natural causes, but more frequently from having been shot at when trespassing on chenas and fields. I forgot to mention that yesterday evening, at Ambagaswęwa, the heat in the day having been very great, a heavy thunderstorm from the north-west came on with drenching rain and hailstones of great size. I picked up many as large as young limes. The people with me had never seen them before, and their eagerness to gather them was most amusing.

May 1.—Usual Kachchéri work. A peon brings me four large copper coins: one he found while bathing and the others in the chena close to the Malwatu-oya near Abhayagiri. I went in the evening to see the place. It is evidently the site of an ancient pottery, and the coins were worked out of a mound of *débris* of broken pots and chatties by porcupines who burrowed in it. The coins have the Buddhist emblems, and are very like one figured in Fergusson's "Tree and Serpent Worship," dated about 300 B.C. It is worth remark that a similar coin, described by Mr. Parker (J.R.A.S. No. 27 of 1884, page 51), appears to have been found at an ancient potters' working-place

May 3.—Visited work at Tisawęwa. Sluice nearly completed; cultivation commences to-day. The bathing pokuna (clearing and banking) nearly finished. I have put steps at the men's and women's bathing places, and some carved side stones taken out of the Abhayagiri irrigation channel, which would have been broken up by coolies if left where they were.

May 4.—Received diary of Superintendent of Village Tanks, Northern Division. A very satisfactory account of the tank restoration in Ulagalla and Uḍḍiyankulama kóralés. The two Tank Superintendents are now virtually "Assistant Agents," and send me very full diaries of the condition of the tanks and villages visited by them.

May 5.—Then to Eruwęwa. This was once a very fine storage tank, probably larger than Nuwarawęwa. The old sluice at the outlet is as large as that of Kaláwęwa Yóda-ęla was, and is in excellent preservation, and the fields are cultivated from it. The bund is about three miles long. The breach is in rock as usual and about the middle of the bund where it turns to the north-west. The river, which is formed by the drainage of the upper tanks, especially the large one, Manankaṭṭiya, flows out of the breach, and is called the Gal-oya. There is no record or remembrance of its being breached; but the forest on the bund shows it must have been several hundred years ago. About fifty years ago the Raṭémahatmayá's (Nikawęwa) grandfather (?) tried to hold up water in the breach by a wooden coffer dam—some of the ęhala posts still remain—but as this was carried away he tried the expedient of a small bund in the bed of the tank where there is some high ground. This bund holds about two or three feet of water, and is generally put up every year at considerable trouble and expense. The Raṭémahatmayá has come to live at this tank, and has settled a number of people under it to cultivate the fields, and is anxious to have something done to hold up water. Mr. Wrightson was of opinion that the Raṭémahatmayá could put up an American wooden dam between the rocks, and directed Mr. Johnson to take levels and measurements, and we shall after that decide what is to be done, and whether the Irrigation Board will consider it possible to do anything. The high-level bisókoṭuwa is very large, and a great channel in two sections diverges from it with sides faced in massive stone. Just about the outlet lie the remains of two figures: one a broken seven-headed Nága ("Hatpén Naya"), and close by a female figure in good preservation, and from the ornament or single cobra head above her head it is clearly meant for a Nága female. (Fergusson's "Tree and Serpent Worship," *passim.)* The figure is about 3½ ft. high.

May 10.—In the afternoon Messrs. Wrightson and Fletcher returned to Anurádhapura. I had intended riding round by Ottappuva to Ranoręwa, but as a petition signed by a large number of persons was recently given regarding restoration of a Crown tank—Mahalinda-węwa—I resolved to ride across by the jungle path and inspect it on the way. This I did and made examination as far as was possible, and sent men to examine what I was unable to do. I find no record of any previous examination of this tank or of the system of irrigation connected with it. I spent all the morning of next day (11th) inquiring into the system from the villagers, who still thoroughly understand it, although it takes hours of patient investigation before they can impart their knowledge. The petitioners' ask that they may be given permission to repair the breaches, and having done so effectually that they may be given 500 acres of Crown land below the tank. They value the labour which they would have to contribute at about Rs. 5,000, or that it would cost Government that sum to have the earthwork done; and if Government were to spend Rs. 5,000, the sale of 500 acres below the tank would repay the cost. But as they have not Rs. 5,000, but have means to do that value in earthwork, they beg this may be granted. I think it will be convenient here to give the result of my inspection and subsequent inquiries regarding what must be considered a fair sample of the magnificent system of irrigation which existed here. A sluice in the Kaláwęwa Yóda-ęla gives water to Tirappane; this water then falls to Ihalataláwa, Pahalataláwa, and crosses the Puttalam road at Bulankulama, 7½ miles from the Yóda-ęla; and 5 miles further to the north is Mahalinda-węwa. Below Taláwa the channel becomes well defined, and at Mahalindawęwa the channel has the appearance of a fair-sized "oya," or minor river. A bund was thrown across the bed of this "Taláwa-ęla," as it is called, and extending on both sides for a total distance of about one and half or two miles into high ground on each side of the stream. This bund was of no great height, being formed to hold up not more than 8 ft. head of water: possibly 10 ft. The stone spill which remains clearly proves this. The stream being dammed formed a tank enclosing a very large area as the bed is level, and sluices on each side of the place where the ęla was damaged permitted cultivation of the lands below on each bank of the stream. The ęla runs north, or nearly so, and the bund is formed from south-east to north-west, and from the north-west a natural spill—Yóda-ęla—carried the surplus water of the Taláwa-ęla along a chain of tanks on the west side of the ęla until the water which remained unused fell back into the ęla a little above another great tank formed in the same way as Mahalindawęwa, called Mahavillachchiya. Below Mahavillachchiya the ęla is called Sandanampurawęṭiya-oya until it enters the Pomparippu pattuwa of the Puttalam District, where it becomes known as Módaragam-oya, and as a large river it falls into the sea at a point of that name. Twelve miles below Mahavillachchiya there are the remains of a tékkam which sent the water south into the Villachchiya kóralé as far as Horawabindunuwęwa and the surrounding tanks. A stream which rises near Ittikulama and Ambagaswęwa flowed into Kuḍávillachchiya and joined the ęla about three miles below. This is known as Ittikulama-ęla.

Nothing would be easier than to restore this system, as the breaches in Lindawęwa are not "in rock," and nothing but earthwork would be required. Everything necessary could be done by village labour, Government of course supplying sluices. I told the petitioners that it was useless applying for the restoration of the tank by Government, as there was at present no population under it; but if they were unanimous in desiring to do the earthwork I would submit the matter to Government as to a grant of land equivalent to the labour value. There are five breaches in the tank caused by the outlet channels being overgrown and silted up. The stone spill is so small that it was only provided as an extra precaution and not for general use, as the surplus water was sent along the north-western wána by a channel to a chain of tanks. The spill is only 20 yards long by 8 yards wide, and about 8 or 10 ft. above the bed of the tank.

June 13.—Rode out to Mihintalé with Mr. MacDonnell, partly to pay a surprise visit to the jail, &c., and partly to investigate some puzzles on the road called "Elas." I went for a considerable distance along the deep cutting which looks so like a Yóda-ęla, but I cannot think it is a water channel, unless it is somehow connected with Nuwarawęwa in a way I cannot see. I shall have it all traced by the Nuwarawęwa Kórála. Although my examination was incomplete, I am somehow led to think it possible that in this "channel," which becomes quite a ravine where it is cut through the high ground at the 53rd mile, we may find the ancient city road to Mihintalé. But this is pure conjecture.

The earthwork cutting of Nuwarawęwa sluice begins to-day. The ticks were most ferocious to-day in the jungle. I inspected the prison and books: all correct. Went up to Eṭ Vęhera to see a bonfire, a fine heap 20 ft. high and square. On descending paraded prisoners and inspected food: three curries and excellent rice, limes, &c. I cannot understand why the prisoners should get currystuffs: surely good wholesome pepper-broth and the meat uncurried would suffice. The food is made not only sufficient and wholesome, but delicious and far better than the men would get in their own homes. Thence to see the work at Mahasaya Dágoba. The *débris* has been cleared from the breach, and shows an ancient attempt at repair or restoration, as it is built up in terraces or steps. These are now being completed.

June 20.—At Kuttanpokuna met jailor and gang of prisoners. I find the crane is too small to lift the heavy stones, and I have had to leave this work over until the large crane is available. Then rode on by the path leading north of Jéta to "Wijayarama" for about a mile. The path passes the ground below Peramiyankulama and turns to the east. I passed several pokunas and groups of small ruins, including one where the eight-armed stone goddess, now in the kachchéri compound, was found. Passed one large pokuna with mounds of ruins on the east of it and an enormous tamarind tree. Next passed several large mounds, which appeared to consist solely of fragments of pottery. These were dug into by scaly ant-eaters, and so all sorts of fragments of rice dishes (for sifting rice) and chatties and large rough earthenware vessels were thrown out. Then passed more pillars and came to the place spoken of. I found it was a quadrangle, nearly 30 yards square, surrounded by buildings like a Kandyan walawwa. The sides of the quadrangle were faced with cut stone in three courses—possibly another now buried. The buildings

round it form a considerable mound. On the west the "buildings-mound" was crossed by steps, and corresponding to this, in a structure in the centre of this quadrangle (which now would be called a ශල "midula"), were steps. This structure had sixteen pillars. The guardian stones are uncarved. On the west and north of this site there were many pillars and a small "galoruwa," but the jungle was so thick that I could not make out any plan. It certainly has not the four small buildings (at each corner) which the large vihárés invariably have. On the east the ground falls away rapidly, and is covered with thorny low jungle, which shows it is at times flooded. The coolies told me that there were no ruins between this and the river. I think this is likely to be true, and that this land was formerly cultivated and not built upon.

This is a curious structure, and I cannot say whether sacred or secular; but it is not large enough for "a palace" unless it be part of a number of buildings enclosed. But I do not think it is sufficiently not of Jétawanárama to answer the requirements, as it is but a mile or so from the dágoba. Making inquiry from old Relapanáwe Ratémahatmayá about the channels and ruins, his statement is that there is a site of "a palace" about three or four acres in extent, bounded on all four sides by a deep moat, a short distance beyond the 2nd mile at the Goḍahorowwa of Nuwarawęwa on the Mihintalé road, and the deep channel running beside the road might have been to bring water to the moat. I shall make further inquiry about this.

Jubilee Day, June 28.—The open space south-east of Ruwanwęli by the Sacred road was prepared for the sports, and sheds were erected for the spectators and a race-course marked out, having in its centre the flagstaff and greasy pole and swing, &c. The sports began at 6.30 A.M. and were well attended and contested. A vast crowd witnessed them. These ceased about 10 A.M. At 10.50 the procession formed at the kachchéri and proceeded to the pandal, which was erected by the headmen at the cross roads near the market. Here the 'Record' was read, salutes fired, &c. At 2 P.M. nearly all the Christians assembled at the schoolhouse, where the service was read and the Queen's Message published. At 3.30 sports recommenced and ended at dark. The "katuru onchilláwa"—"merry go round"—gave great amusement, as few of the people in this Province had ever seen one before. At 8 P.M. the Jaffna troupe of minstrels gave a performance, followed by fireworks provided at the expense of the Tamil community, which went very successfully and continued until midnight. The bonfire on Mihintalé Eṭ Vęhera hill was very fine, but the wind was so strong that it burnt up by 10.30.

June 29.—Tennis tournament and cricket match occupied nearly all day, and at night the Jaffna players commenced a play—"Alichandra"—in the maduwa erected for the purpose near the pandal. This lasted until dawn, and was most creditable to the persons who got it up at considerable expense.

June 30 was partly spent in resting from the fatigues of the previous two days and in the tennis tournament, and at night the Tamil play was again brought on and concluded at dawn; and this finished the Jubilee Celebration at Anurádhapura.

August 26.—The Anunáyaka Unnánse comes to see me and asks for a writing showing what are the intentions regarding the excavation into Abhayagiriya. I informed him that they have already been clearly set forth verbally, and I have no objection that he should have them in writing—*i. e.*, the Government Agent desires to make search for the ancient books which tradition asserts were placed in this stupa. In making this search all unnecessary damage to the structure will be avoided; a narrow passage to the centre will be cut and examination made near the centre for the objects placed there; any objects found will, after examination, be carefully replaced; if the books are found, copies will be taken by learned persons and the originals replaced; the passage shall be closed up to prevent entrance when the examination is completed. Such are the intentions of the Government Agent; but all must be considered as subject to any future orders which His Excellency the Governor may give on the subject.

December 18.—Rainfall for past twenty-four hours = 3·65 in. In the morning rode out with Mr. Wrightson to Tisáwęwa and to see the Yóda-ęla. The tank has risen very considerably, two feet being now just four feet at sluice. But as the sluice is put in high, the depth outside cannot be much under fifteen or twenty feet. Found the Yóda-ęla flowing full and strong four feet deep at exits. Rode up the bank to Alankulam and back. A number of people came out from the town to see the canal running Very heavy rain again in the afternoon and night.

December 19.—Rainfall for past twenty-four hours = 4·12 in.! I was obliged to send out the District Engineer and a gang yesterday afternoon to Bulankulama. The sluice was found to be in such a state when the tank half filled last month, that it was decided to put up a coffer dam and thoroughly repair it in cement. The water topped the dam yesterday and nearly carried off the dam and works, but Mr. Ward was able to secure them and strengthen the dam before much damage was done. Water reported yesterday to be flowing 11 in. over the spill of Kaláwęwa. I am rather miserable to-day, expecting every hour to hear of the Yóda-ęla being breached in half a dozen places; and I am sure with such rain as we have had that many of the kóralés where rain had previously fallen will have suffered heavily yesterday. On the other hand, if the rain is general, it will fill the tanks in the north and north-east, about which I was very anxious.

As to the Yóda-ęla, I am sure it must breach. This late and heavy fall of rain has been unfortunate in this way. The weather seemed so settled, that to save cultivation at Anurádhapura I decided to get water down as the people were much discouraged. But I now fear it was an error. The upper section of the ęla has so little fall (as far as Palugaswęwa) that it is more like a great tank than a river as it is lower down. When this is filled the margin of safety is not large, and if rain falls it must go over the bank unless the spill planks are taken out. I fear there has not been time to remove them. The sluices at Kaláwęwa, which were only opened one-third, were closed on Saturday morning, 17th. Tisáwęwa was yesterday rising half an inch an hour = 1 ft. in twenty-four hours. So it appears, that if empty it would take the Yóda-ęla eighteen days to fill it. Arrived a number of visitors—French, German, and English—to see the ruins.

December 20.—Superintendent of Village Tanks reported "all right" still at Yóda-ęla, except a trifling breach at Palugaswęwa spill, which had been leaking behind the wing wall. This is nothing. The Yóda-ęla was running yesterday evering 5 ft. 2 in. deep into Tisáwęwa. This morning went to the tank, which has now risen to 9 ft. Basawakkulam is 10 ft. Rainfall for yesterday = 1·21 in. Went with Mr. Wrightson, Provincial Engineer, to see a landslip (reported) from top of Abhayagiri dágoba. Found there was no damage done or any danger to the spire or platform. The excavation is now 16 ft. deep.

The Malwatu-oya has overflowed through the chenas and is running down the Halpan-ęla.

December 21.—Great overflow of Malwatu-oya. The rainfall is unprecedented. In last twenty-four hours it is 6·04 in. Early in the morning it was reported to me that the people were in danger in the lands submerged along the banks of the river. Went at once with Mr. Wrightson, Provincial Engineer, and Mr. Ward, District Engineer, and found the river flowing strong across the road at the native resthouse, about 2½ ft. deep, and again near the bridge and beyond it near the turn to Jaffna road. Sent for the boat from Basawakkulama, and about six persons were rescued from trees which they had climbed when the houses were surrounded and submerged. Took similar steps in the case of the coolies on the Ayton road. Some more minor slips at the dágoba. A man reports a breach at Amane in Yóda-ęla, about 4 miles out. Sent to have the sluices and spills on the lower section opened at once. Water at Yóda-ęla exit = 5 ft. 6 in. Went out to Tisáwęwa and found it had risen to 12 ft. 4 in. and rapidly rising from the heavy rain and Yóda-ęla supply. Basawakkulam this morning 12 ft. 8 in.

The coach has been stopped by water at Kalattęwa. No news from Kaláwęwa.

Telegraphed state of affairs to the Hon. the Colonial Secretary. The average rainfall for this month = 7 in., and during the last week alone we have had 17·15 in.! and the rain continues unabated.

It was fortunate that boats were got for the tanks this year, or there would have been loss of life. Such a flood has not been known since 1877, when it was almost as heavy as this; but as Anurádhapura was then only partially cleared, the damage was not so great. Now roads, channels, and cultivation have all suffered. In the afternoon Mr. Renganathen reports a breach in Yóda-ęla at Amunukole, not a very serious one; and the breach recently repaired at Kuttikulam has gone again owing to the breaching of tanks above it. The bund has been cut near Puliyankulam in the solid ground to prevent a breach there. On the whole, this is so far satisfactory that no excessive or very costly damage has been done.

PROVINCE OF UVA.

REVENUE ADMINISTRATION REPORT OF THE GOVERNMENT AGENT, PROVINCE OF UVA, FOR 1887.

I.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

THE revenue for the Province for the year 1887 was Rs. 177,162·48, showing an advance of Rs. 3,555·49 upon the previous year.

When we consider that the revenue of 1886 was adventitiously swollen to the extent of over Rs. 10,000 by the proceeds of the sale of lands bought in some years previously by the Crown for default of payment of paddy tax, and that no similar windfall occurred in 1887, the revenue of that year shows a decided improvement. It will be noted with satisfaction that this improvement manifests itself chiefly in those items which more particularly indicate amelioration in the condition of the people. But in the figures just given no notice is taken of the revenue collected by local institutions—the Road Committee and the Local Board.

The expenditure, exclusive of public works, was Rs. 90,738·47, namely, 51 per cent.,—a little over one-half of the revenue.

The several headings of revenue are thus compared with those of 1886 :—

Land Sales.—1886, Rs. 4,448·65; 1887, Rs. 3,017·38; decrease, Rs. 1,431·27. Variations under this heading have been very capricious ever since the catastrophe in the coffee industry in 1878. The demand for land has been, generally speaking, since then almost *nil*. The tea industry, so far, has requisitioned little new land: old coffee has been taken out to give it place, or jungle and patana (but little of the former) already in private hands has been made available. In this way there will be sufficient field for the new enterprise for another year or two.

Paddy Rented.—1887, Rs. 5,183·39; 1886, 4,225·84; increase, Rs. 897·55. This item is the result of the sale of the right to collect the Government tithe of the crops of fields which did not accept the commutation settlement of 1878. The increase is due to the highly satisfactory fact, that a greater number of these fields were cultivated in 1887 than in any previous year.

Paddy Commuted.—1887, Rs. 63,197·51; 1886, Rs. 63,083·51; decrease, Rs. 114. This slight decrease appears, because the amount due for 1887 was less by just so much, the exemptions granted by way of remuneration to native headmen having reached a greater sum in 1887 than they did the year before. The tax due for the year was fully recovered well within the year, scarcely any statutory pressure being necessary—a highly satisfactory achievement, which has now been accomplished for three years in succession.

Fine Grain Rented.—1886, Rs. 3,430·33; 1887, Rs. 492·45; decrease, Rs. 2,937·88. Under this heading comes the sale of the Government tithe of grain cultivated without irrigation upon lands cleared periodically of their jungle (chena land), understood to be the property of private individuals or of the village, as well as the rent of Crown lands of the same description allowed for this sort of cultivation. In 1886 this tax was withdrawn, and, as far as Crown lands are concerned, the practice of chenaing has been in the last few years interdicted, except where this could not be done without suffering to the people, as, for instance, in the outlying forest kóralés of Bintenna and Wellasa, where the people chiefly depend for their food upon dry cultivation, and where all the land is the property of the Crown.

The falling off in the collections under this head is thus readily accounted for, the collections being now due exclusively to rent recovered from Crown chenas. It should also be remembered that the figures for 1886 include tax upon private chenas recovered before the changed treatment was authorised.

Gardens Rented.—1886, Rs. 444·80; 1887, Rs. 442·85; decrease, Rs. 1·95. The decrease deserves no remark. As fast as new lands are leased out, old ones are becoming the property of the tenants in terms of the indulgent conditions allowed by Government with the view to the encouragement of garden cultivation and the settlement of sparsely-populated localities.

The system is held in disfavour by the European planter, who regards every new native holding in the vicinity of his estate as a cover to depredations upon his produce, or to the unlicensed sale to his coolies of intoxicating drinks. The objection is, in most cases, well founded, and might in most cases be conceded to, for there is plenty of room for such holdings at a greater distance from estates. The rules are indulgent, too, exclusively to native squatters. If the same terms were allowed to Europeans much more effectual and rapid progress in the opening up of the country and the improvement of cultivation would be effected.

Tolls.—1887, Rs. 15,650; 1886, Rs. 16,731·41; decrease, Rs. 1,081·41. The decrease is mainly due to the depreciation in the value of the Badulla bridge toll in consequence of the Spring Valley private cart road having been exempted from toll in recognition of the great benefit that road, constructed and maintained wholly by estates, affords to the public generally.

The revenue from tolls being the result of a sale a year in advance, is more the measure of the year's promise than a gauge of its actual condition. With this reflection in mind, it is satisfactory to note that the sale for 1888 showed an advance of over 25 per cent., having been brought for Rs. 19,650.

The following table exhibits the vicissitudes of the toll rents upon the three great trunk roads through the Province during the period 1874 to 1886, and very aptly illustrates the history of the coffee industry in the country; for there can be no doubt that this industry has governed transport almost exclusively :—

	1874.	1875.	1876	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.
Road towards Colombo, from Badulla to the railway* through Nuwara Eliya ...	7500	5800	6250	5800	5550	5800	1500	2181	2410	2008	2389	3762	3346
Road from Badulla to Colombo through Haputalé and Ratnapura	7970	9700	9050	8760	8870	7800	7350	7175	7960	6065	6850	5030	4700
Road from Badulla to Batticaloa...	10770	10300	12430	10500	9700	10700	11255	10600	11700	10030	9500	7347	7586

* Terminus first at Gampola and subsequently (since 1885) at Nánu-oya.

The figures for 1887 cannot be given, as all the tolls for that year were sold in one lot.

Observe the very sudden drop on the Nuwara Eliya road in 1880—a drop from the preceding year of 75 per cent., the effect of the collapse of the coffee enterprise in 1878. That some of it was due to mere panic is shown by the slight revival in 1881. The drop between 1885 and 1886 was the result of too high an estimate having been formed of the railway's reducing traffic from the Ratnapura road.

Licenses (Retail of Arrack and Toddy).—1887, Rs. 46,449·96; 1886, Rs. 19,720·88; increase, Rs. 26,729·08. This item is the proceeds of the sale of the monopoly of selling these liquors. The increase is due to the fact of there having been greater competition than in the previous year, due chiefly to improved prospects, but in a great measure to our having been able to disarm a combination among the bidders.

The increase apparent under this head is due to the main improvement in the gross revenue of the Province for the year; for it is the chief unfixed source of revenue.

The arrack farm of the Province is let from June to June, and comprises taverns at Badulla, Haldummulla, Lunugalla, Welimada, Bandarawela, Koslanda, Marangahawela, Wellawáya, Passara, Bibilé, and Dikwella.

The following table of the amounts realised by the arrack and toll rents for many years interestingly illustrates the fluctuations of industrial prosperity in Uva. A rise in the arrack rents indicates an increase in the employment of labour, and *vice versâ*. The toll rents are the exponent of food, materials, and produce :—

	Arrack. Rs.	Toll. Rs.	Total. Rs.
1873	40,000	26,899	66,899
1874	45,562	24,883	70,445
1875	59,583	28,621	88,204
1876	75,817	31,414	107,231
1877	94,928	28,763	123,691
1878	85,386	28,107	113,493
1879	64,055	23,962	88,017
1880	74,406	17,156	91,662
1881	61,605	22,432	84,037
1882	61,426	24,927	86,353
1883	58,476	20,251	78,727
1884	53,519	20,916	74,435
1885	25,000	18,283	43,283
1886	19,720	18,702	38,422
1887	50,250	15,650	65,900

Very similar variations have ruled throughout the whole Island during the same period. The consumption of foreign liquors tells the same story, having fallen fully 50 per cent. since the great decline in coffee first set in.

Stamps, General.—1887, Rs. 18,067·81; 1886, Rs. 16,995·89; increase, 1,071·92. The increase is due to greater activity in the courts.

Postage Stamps.—1886, Rs. 8,685·18; 1887, Rs. 3,666·09; decrease, Rs. 5,019·09. This does not arise from the demand having grown less, but from the fact that post offices in the Province which used to buy their stamps at the Badulla kachchéri now buy at Nuwara Eliya or elsewhere beyond the limits of the Province.

Assessment Tax.—1886, Rs. 3,667·08; 1887, Rs. 2,848·77; decrease, Rs. 818·31. The decrease is owing to the relief from taxation of the district of Koslanda upon the withdrawal of the police station at Koslanda about the middle of the year at the request of the estates concerned.

Postage.—1887, Rs. 526·35; 1886, Rs. 271·74; apparent increase, Rs. 255·61. There was no actual increase. All the collections for 1886 are not shown in the figures for that year as they are for 1887, because part of the collections of 1886 were, under rules then in force, paid into the Kandy kachchéri.

Fines and Forfeitures.—1887, Rs. 2,551·27; 1886, Rs. 1,640·67; increase Rs. 910·60. The receipts under this head are, of course, subject to purely accidental variations.

Sale of Timber.—1887, Rs. 853; 1886, Rs. 139·98; increase Rs. 713·02. The increase is the first small outcome of the commencement, on a very small scale, of a regular system of Forestry in the Province.

Some advance was made in conservancy, and the Forester drove people to purchase from Government by demonstrating to them, by means of some well-chosen examples, prosecuted before the court, that it was hazardous to purchase from private parties. The newly-erected Head of the Forest Department for the Island has made recommendations to Government, resulting in funds being provided for some really practical work in 1888.

The few remaining items of revenue are of so little importance that they merit no remark, except that whereas the sale of school books at the kachchéri (the only educational depôt in the Province) realised only Rs. 9·32 in 1886, it realised Rs. 76·45 in the year under consideration—a circumstance speaking for the advance of education, which cannot fail to be viewed with satisfaction.

II.—THE WEATHER.

On the whole, the weather during the year was, in a fairly average degree, favourable to health and cultivation.

The first six months showed less rain and fewer wet days than the same season in the previous year. During the second half-year there was a good deal more rain, and late in the last quarter very heavy showers fell all over the Province effecting no little damage. Injury was done to the dry grain crops then ripening; the bund of the Punawęwa in Uḍakinda was breached; a wall recently built in course of the improvement of the Kandé-ęla was seriously damaged at its foundation; a stream-crossing on the Gal-oya works just constructed was carried away; and a great deal of injury was done to the ill-fated Taldena-ęla by landslips.

Observations taken in the town of Badulla afford the following figures:—

	Rainfall.		No. of Wet days.	
	1886.	1887.	1886.	1887.
First half-year ...	30·21	23·38	53	42
Second half-year ...	44·14	70·52	69	75
Total ...	74·35	93·90	122	117

Regarding the whole Province, and the interests more especially of the cultivation of rice and dry grain, the first two quarters were sufficiently favourable, the third was deficient in rain, and the fourth too wet. Planters of long experience consider that the climate of Uva for the last two years has been more like than hitherto what it used to be in the old days when coffee flourished.

As regards the health of the people, the first two quarters of the year were particularly free from sickness; in the second there were some cases, here and there, of fever and sore-eyes, while the unusually heavy rain in the fourth, following a long drought, was naturally accompanied by an outbreak of disease. A fever of virulent type (not ordinary jungle fever) was very prevalent, and proved fatal in not a few instances.

III.—VITAL STATISTICS.

The population of Uva is about 165,000 (in the proportion of five males to four females) comprising approximately:—

Europeans ...	350	Moors ...	6,000
Eurasians ...	250	Malays ...	400
Siṇhalese ...	103,800	Veḍdás ...	450
Tamils ...	43,500	Others ...	250

The births, deaths, and marriages during 1887 and the four previous years were as follows:—

	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.
Births ...	5,160	5,245	4,593	5,182	5,417
Deaths ...	4,326	4,641	5,290	4,525	5,573
Marriages:					
Kandyan...	908	471	461	1,745	1,287
General ...	25	40	20	31	30

There is a seeming falling off in the number of marriages; but last year's numbers were greatly swollen by the registration of old unions following the old Kandyan practice, which the Government Agent exerted earnest endeavours to get legalised. In making the registration no distinction is drawn in the entry between ordinary marriages and old unions of the sort referred to, so that it is not possible to state here how many of each kind the figures given above contain. It is certain, however, that the tendency to contract marriages under the due sanction of the law is year by year increasing among the Kandyans.

The death record is in excess of that of 1886, owing to the effect of the unseasonable weather referred to under the last heading.

IV.—INDUSTRIES, AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

Native Industries.

The area of land under paddy was the largest on record. The outturn was, on the whole, good. Neither headmen nor people will ever admit that crops are unattended by some circumstance or other unfavourable to them, and so the customary complaints were made of drought, flies, &c.

It is satisfactory to record that there was a considerable increase in the cultivation under the irrigation works restored by Government of Horaborawęwa, Kuḍáwęwa, Sudupanáwela, Diwurunwęwa, and Punawęwa.

Dry cultivation unquestionably suffered from the great drought in the first months of the year.

Some further improvements were made in the cultivation of barley in Uḍukinda, with complete success. (That division obtained the prize for this grain at the Agricultural Show held in Nuwara Eliya in the early part of 1888.) So far it has only been tried in small patches here and there, but there is reason to believe that, now that the natives are thoroughly assured of the suitability of the soil and of the existence of an unfailing market, they will enter confidently upon much larger undertakings in 1889. The Manager of the Nuwara Eliya Brewery, a gentleman of considerable Indian experience, met the Government Agent in Uḍukinda, and finding the soil and climate all that could be desired, was good enough to address a large number of people upon the great benefits that would accrue to them from the adoption of this new cultivation, instructing them as to the simple agricultural treatment required, and promising to purchase the first year's crop at very encouraging rates.

Oats were also grown successfully in Uḍukinda by Dambawinné Raṭémahatmayá (the winner of the prize given by the Nuwara Eliya Agricultural Show for barley).

The confidence that coffee was destined to return to its former flourishing condition, which had begun to show itself last year in the minds of villagers, was much shaken by a visitation of green bug, which worked rapid and sweeping havoc among the few native gardens which had survived the ravages of leaf-disease. Great has been the change since the time when the produce of the village gardens of Uva realised annually as much as Rs. 600,000, and the villager was able to get Rs. 15 a bushel for his crop without going beyond the market at Badulla.

The circumstances of the people are improving year by year: they may be said to have fully recovered the disastrous results of the impoverishment which fell upon them with the failure of coffee in 1878, and are probably now as prosperous as they ever were before they thought of growing coffee at all.

The tea enterprise is now giving wages to a large number of Siṇhalese, who are yearly manifesting a much greater readiness than formerly to work for hire. This is a hopeful sign, partly the result of lessons of adversity, and partly the effect of the operation of the new Road Ordinance, which is familiarising them with manual labour other than paddy field work and depriving it in their eyes of its degrading character.

In regard to the food supply of the people and their opportunities for obtaining advice and treatment in sickness, there will be no need to adopt other words than those of my last Administration Report :—

Consideration of the food supply of the people may properly find a place here, because it is really a question of agriculture. It may be roundly stated that 100,000 out of the entire population of 165,000 produce all their own food, except salt and dry fish, to procure which they barter such produce as they can spare. In fact, the whole labour of this section of the population is devoted to the realisation of produce just sufficient for the year's food and the payment of the paddy tax. The area sown with paddy in 1886 may be estimated at 27,000 amunams. Taking the low estimate all round of eight fold, we get as the total outturn of paddy about 1,040,000 bushels.

In a cultivation so loosely defined as chena cultivation necessarily is, unlimited by any sort of survey, it is extremely difficult to form a proper estimate of areas cropped. Roughly, the area under dry grains of various sorts may be set down at 10,000 acres, and allowing eight bushels an acre we get as the total outturn 80,000 bushels; thus we arrive at about 1,220,000 bushels of home produce as having been available during the year for the food of 100,000 souls.

If, then, we consider the quantity of fruits and roots, wild and cultivated (of which, of course, not even an approximate estimate can be made), and the extent to which, in the wilder parts of the country at least, the people supplement their food from the spoils of the chase, there can be no doubt that there is, in an ordinary year, an ample supply of food for the population; but it must be remembered that the dry grain crop is wholly dependent upon the weather, and that in the low-lying plains paddy cultivation may be for a whole year rendered utterly impossible through the failure of rain at a certain season. In the year in question, however, there was no serious atmospheric irregularity to impede or injure cultivation.

One-third of the community, comprising the estate and bazaar population and coolies employed on public works, get the bulk of their food from outside. Their rice comes from India, and, broadly speaking, the only local products they consume are vegetables, fruit, and the little meat they indulge in. Of rice they have always an abundant supply, especially estate labourers and road coolies, who are well cared for by their employers. Very little locally-produced grain leaves the Province, except what goes in barter for salt and fish from the kóralés upon the borders of maritime districts.

It will be seen that in populous parts of the Province, where there are the means of tolerably certain cultivation, there need be little fear of the food supply falling short, except in a catastrophe such as the sudden downfall of the coffee enterprise brought about, when people became so poor that they could not cultivate their own lands, and so an actual famine ensued. In the low-lying semi-zone, where people are, except in the neighbourhood of big tanks, so dependent upon rain (being chiefly dependent upon chena cultivation for their food), the food supply is always more or less precarious, and there is often a deplorable absence of good drinking water. Hence cases of constitutional disease, especially paraṇgi, are sadly frequent in these quarters. The universal panacea is water—water for drinking and water for cultivating. In well cultivated parts of the Province the people are very healthy; in less favoured parts they are at all times much less robust and an easier prey to disease.

Fever is their chief enemy, against which they are liberally and graciously supplied through the kachchéri with quinine, in which they have perfect faith. In all cases of epidemics prompt aid is given, and a medical officer, whenever the outburst is a serious one, is despatched to the locality. As regards other ailments, the Siṇhalese, except in the neighbourhood of the capital of the Province, and, perhaps, in a few cases in the immediate vicinity of a district hospital, decline to seek our assistance or adopt our treatment. It is seldom even that in serious cases of accident, where surgical aid is necessary, that hospitals are had recourse to. The evil is due to prejudices in favour of native treatment, which, such as it is, is always near enough at hand. The want of proper surgical assistance in cases of dislocated limbs due to falling from trees, for instance (cases of most common occurrence), is often painfully evidenced to the Government Agent when hearing applications for exemption from road tax.

The Tamils on estates fully appreciate the benefits of scientific treatment, and are well provided for in this respect by Government. At the several hospitals scattered through estate districts, Siṇhalese villagers are admitted when they choose to apply, provided there is room for them and they are fit subjects for hospital treatment.

The following notes upon the condition of certain kóralés, made in the course of investigations preparatory to the settlement of the Province under the Grain Tax Ordinance, 11 of 1878, may fitly find a place here :—

Memorandum of Evidence touching the Condition of Yaṭipaláta of Uḍukinda Division.

March 17.—The surface of the kóralé is hilly. The chief cultivation is paddy: but little dry grain is grown, including Indian corn. Within the last year or so barley has been grown here and there in patches with considerable success. The chief streams are the Bambara or Dúlgolle-oya, which forms the boundary on the south and west, never actually entering the kóralé, and the Nánu-oya. There are six dams upon the Bambara-oya which benefit Yaṭipaláta, including the dam which feeds the Umá-ela. The Umá-ela is the chief irrigative source.

Marketable produce other than paddy, kurakkan, and Indian corn are potatoes (Rs. 6 or Rs. 7 a cwt.), onions (Rs. 2 a cwt.), straw (37c. a hundred bundles), oranges (12½c. a hundred), tobacco (75c. a bundle), limes (25c. to 37c. a hundred), jakfruit, coffee (very little now), beans. Cattle are not as plentiful as they used to be: a full-grown beast is sold for from Rs. 10 to Rs 12.

The railway is now beginning to benefit the kóralé. People carry thither for sale all the commodities enumerated above. Other markets are at Weḷimaḍa, Pálugama (Wilson's Bungalow), Halgarannáwa, and the estates of Uḍa Pusselláwa, which are less than half a day's journey off.

There is no doubt that the people can always sell at a very fair price anything they raise.

The present price of paddy at Weḷimaḍa, or Wilson's Bungalow, is Rs. 1·50 a bushel. But at harvest time on the threshing-floor the price is 37c. a beré, or 36c. a bushel. This is the sum of the evidence of the bystanders generally, but the Raṭémahatmayá's evidence upon this point is as follows :—"On the threshing-floor in harvest

time a man can never now get more than from 37c. to 50c. a beré. When paddy is scarce, as at the present moment, he can get from Re. 1 to Re. 1·12 a beré; that is, the price varies from 56c. to Re. 1·50 a bushel."

The price of paddy was much higher from 1873 to 1878. There was much more traffic on the Nuwara Eliya road then. As much as Rs. 3 a bushel was given for paddy. The average in the market would be Rs. 2, upon the threshing-floor Re. 1·50. An old man comes forward voluntarily and says :—"I well remember having sold paddy in Nuwara Eliya in 1855 for Rs. 3 a bushel. During the last seven years' commutation (1871 to 1877) I sold it for Rs. 2 and Rs. 2·50 a bushel."

The evidence of Dangamuwé, late Ratémahatmayá, is as follows :—"On the threshing-floor, at harvest, the present price of paddy is 37c. I have known people to sell their paddy when they have been hard pressed for taxes at 25c. a bushel. In the last seven years' commutation the average price of paddy was from Re. 1·50 to Rs. 2."

The average price of paddy for the kóralé was fixed by the Commissioner, after hearing this evidence, at Re. 1·25 for the purposes of the grain settlement, the Commissioner remarking: "It would not be fair to take either the price at harvest time or the highest price in the market as the standard for the purposes of the Ordinance, but something between the two. If a man is fairly industrious and fairly provident, there should be no necessity for him to part with his paddy at the threshing-floor."

As regards crop-fold in Yaṭipaláta, the highest fold given in the now expiring commutation agreement is 8½-fold. The lowest quoted is 3-fold. I take evidence upon this point, and find it positively asserted by trustworthy witnesses that 10-fold is scarcely ever reached. Dambawinne Raṭémahatmayá tells me that only in a very special case did he get 12-fold, and this was only once, namely in 1876. This was in the case of a field near his house, the soil of which is particularly fertile.

Consideration must be given to the fact, that whereas this part of Uva used (up to the time of preparing the now expiring commutation) to be one of the most flourishing kóralés, it has become really very poor in late years.

The assessment made eventually by the Commissioner bore the following relation to the assessment of 1878 :—

	Old Assessment. Rs. c.	New Assessment. Rs. c.
First class fields	1 40 ...	1 25
Second class fields	1 20 ...	1 0
Third class fields	0 75 ...	0 70
Fourth class fields	0 50 ...	0 40

Memorandum of Evidence touching the Condition of Medapaláta Kóralé of Udukinda Division.

May 11.—The surface of this kóralé is, like the adjoining one of Yaṭipaláta, extremely irregular. Only one oya (small river) traverses the kóralé, the Hál-oya, rising in Kurunatakanda and falling into the Umá-oya. The chief cultivation is, of course, paddy. There is very little land suitable for kurakkan cultivation. The village of Uḍáhawara produces a good deal of potatoes and onions. Tobacco is grown in every village to a small extent.

Irrigation.—The Dimbulwala-ela-amuna (anicut) on the Hál-oya irrigates thirty amunams of the village Dimbulwalagama. Plenty of water is always procurable from this dam. The Mána-ela, on the same oya, feeds about sixty amunams, situated in the villages Unapánagama, Paṭṭiyékumbura, Medakeṭiya, and Gopalláwégama. This dam has been recently improved by Government. At my suggestion the framework of a wooden dam, well socketed into the rock bottom of the river, has been constructed, upon which the cultivators will fasten the usual wall of sticks and grass. One mistake was made in opposition to my suggestions. The posts have been inserted in an upright position instead of sloping away from the flood. It is expected that this dam will now give a constant and full supply of water to the fields under it.

Kaḍadora-ela, from the same oya, irrigates Kaḍadoragama, Iḍamégama, Hedillégama, Ranhawadigama, Lékumburagama, Karunásangiligama, Aralugahawakagama—about fifty-five amunams in all. This ela affords an abundant supply of water to the fields under it.

Hangunáwé-ela, on the same oya, irrigates Hangunawégama, Pitawelagama, Hiriaráwégama, and Tettigewé gama—about thirty amunams. The supply sometimes fails in this channel, so that the whole thirty amunams cannot be cultivated every year with certainty. This is because the dam is sometimes destroyed by sudden floods in the river. What is wanted is that Government should supply, as at Mána-ela, a firm framework upon which to build the customary native dam. Indeed, the only absolutely essential thing is to drill holes in the rock in the bottom of the river : the villagers are able and willing to do everything else.

The Ambagahawala-ela, on the same oya, irrigates Wellameddagama, containing about forty amunams of land. In it there is water enough for the regular cultivation every year of the whole forty amunams.

The Etkandawaka-ela, on the same oya, irrigates Ulpotakumburagama, Elkandawakagama, and Hapugollégama, containing about thirty amunams. The lower fields sometimes suffer from an insufficiency of water, chiefly because the ela is sometimes starved by the anicuts higher up the river.

The Goḍa-ela, on the same oya, irrigates part of the fields in Rayhowaḍigama, part of Lékumburagama ; whole area about eight amunams. It always affords an abundant supply.

The rest of the irrigation of the kóralé is done by dams upon small rivulets, some sufficing and some failing to suffice, for the irrigation demanded.

Marketable produce other than paddy are potatoes (Rs. 6 or Rs. 7 a cwt. in the village), onions (Rs. 2 a cwt.), straw (37c. a hundred bundles in the village). If taken to Nuwara Eliya the same quantity of straw would fetch a rupee but it would require four men to transport it there in a day.

Tobacco sells for from 25c. to 50c. a bundle of fifty leaves in the village. Coffee, of which there is very little now, is sold at Rs. 32·50 a cwt. in the village and at Rs. 33·50 in the bazaar at Welimaḍa (on the Nuwara Eliya road, half a dozen miles off).

There is no doubt that the people can get a market for everything they raise. Every point in the kóralé is within something less than a full day's journey from the railway station.

The greatest crop-fold for the kóralé is given by different witnesses, thus:—The Kórála : "Nine-fold. The average fold would not be more than eight." The Raṭémahatmayá : "The very best crop ever got from any field would not be more than twelve-fold." Kiriwáné Arachchi : "Ten-fold."

But the last commutation has a few fields at 12½-fold. The Kórala admits that fields did give this crop in former days, but through decrease of rainfall and exhaustion of the soil they do not produce so plentifully now.

As regards the price of paddy, the general run of the evidence of those present is as follows. When there is a scarcity of paddy, it sells in the village at Re. 1·50 a bushel. A man can get this price at the present moment. Villagers buy it at that rate, convert it into rice, and sell it within the kóralé. They make a bushel of rice out of two of paddy. They pay Rs. 3 for the paddy and sell it as rice for Rs. 3·88, thus making 88c by the transaction, that is, about 30 per cent. But paddy is very scarce just now..... In the reaping time it is sold on the threshing-floor at 75c. Crop advances are obtained at the following rates :—At sowing time, namely, five months before delivery of the paddy, 37c. a bushel ; four months before crop, 50c. for every bushel promised ; three months before crop, 62c. The highest advance is a rupee. For these advances the paddy must be delivered at the residence of the person who lends the money.

The following statement is agreed to by all present. During the fourteen years past the price of paddy has varied thus:—For the first four years from Rs. 2 to Re. 1·50 a bushel ; for the following ten years from Re. 1·50 to 75c. a bushel. For the last fourteen years, therefore, the average would be Re. 1·30 a bushel. (We ought to make allowance for a natural tendency to exaggerate the former price of paddy, in the anxiety of the people to show that their circumstances are so much worse than they used to be. They do not suspect that the new rate will be the higher, the bigger the price they admit to have got at any time within the last fourteen years.)

Summary of Evidence as to the Condition of Dambawinné Kóralé of Udukinda.

June 15.—Present a large concourse of people and all the headman of the kóralé, besides the Raṭémahatmayá of the division.

The kóralé is very hilly. The chief sources of water supply for irrigation are the Matilillé-oya and the Boralanda-oya. The chief anicuts on the former are Ellétoṭa, watering Hinnárangolla, Galahiṭiyawa, and Ratkarawuwa; Galpatwela anicut, watering other fields in Ratkarawuwa; and the Ketakélé-ela, watering Koskanuwégama.

The dams on the Boralanda-oya are Eluwalwęligoda-ela, watering part of Boralanda; Wangiyéwela-ela, watering Udalakumburagama; Watugoda Weli-ela, watering part of Hinnárangollégama; Pallé-ela, watering part of Udalakumburagama; Gambęddé-ela, watering Gambęddégama; Udakindagollé-ela, watering Udakindagollegama; Walihinnéweleamuna, watering Gambęddagama.

Besides these elas there are the tanks recently restored by Government (the people executing the earthwork): the Punáwęwa, watering Návela, part of Galkumbura, Kętakélé, Diyatoṭawela, Galpatwela, Dambawinna, Mędagedaragama, Amunumulla, Koṭakitulégama, and Mirahawatta; and the Diwurunwęwa, which waters Mędagedaragama, Dambawinné, Diyatoṭawela, and a small portion of Galpatwela.

The Dikápiṭiya tank is being restored. There are also two dams on the Węlimada river (the Dulgollé-oya), the Puhulpola anicut, watering the village Puhulpola, and the Alutęllé anicut, watering Idamégama.

The people carry their paddy for sale to Węlimada, Wilson's Bungalow, Haputalé, and Haldummulla. They can always find a ready market for it. They have good markets for straw, too, as the kóralé has ready access to the high road between Badulla and Nuwara Eliya. The people enjoy a closer vicinity to markets than the people of Mędapaláta and Yaṭipaláta, it is true, but the two last-named kóralés can command better prices.

I appeal to headmen and bystanders, and they agree with me that it will be fair to value paddy here as in Mędapaláta and Yaṭipalata, namely at Rs. 1·25 a bushel.

In the Administration Report for 1883 reference is made to the large share which the severity and unequalness of the late assessment had in embarassing to the utmost the work of the collectors and bringing about the disasters which ensued, while the blame is shown to have rested with the assessors and writers of the registers, who effected a balance in their figures by adding to one man's tax what was taken off another's. The following examples, only a few out of many, taken from notes jotted down in the course of the settlement last year of the kóralés will illustrate what was stated in that report:—

Instances of Corruption or Injustice in the Commutation Register of 1878.

Ihala-alagollégama. Seven fields, 3,494—3,513, originally written at 75c. each, had their tax raised to Re. 1·75 by the addition of a unit to each figure. All poor fields with uncertain water supply rated at between 5 and 6-fold. Fancy their paying considerably higher than the very best fields in the kóralé with an abundant water supply. Field 3,823 paid Re. 1·80 a péla—a second class field—while the authorised rate for first class fields was only Re. 1·40 a péla. Field 3,835 was originally written (fairly) Rs. 2·80. The sum was changed to Rs. 2 (other like instances). Fields 1,393, 1,394, 1,395, and 1,396 rated at Rs. 2·20 a péla—that is, once and a half the rate authorised for the best fields in the kóralé. Field 1,792 paid Re. 1·70 a péla, Re. 1·40 being the highest rate allowed. Field 2,016 paid Re. 1·85 a péla. Fields cultivated only once in ten years (Kumarapattiya, for example) paid 50c. a péla every year. Field 2,486, never once cultivated in this commutation (ten years), has paid Re. 1·75 a year—*i.e.*, Rs. 17·50 for nothing. Field 2,527, not once cultivated, in this commutation paid Re. 1·40 a péla. Field 2,529, not cultivated for twenty years, paid Re. 1·40 a péla. Field 2,611 paid Re. 1·40 a péla, while the adjoining field (2,612), exactly similarly conditioned (a headman's), paid only Re. 1·17 a péla. In fact, it is admitted that 2,612 is better than 2,611. Field 2,670, of two péias, paid Rs. 2·50 a year, while it had only one crop during the whole term of the settlement (ten years). Field 2,928 paid Re. 1·50 a péla (a higher rate than the best fields), while it depends on rain, and had only one crop in the whole commutation period of ten years.

In the village of the Guruwás, several fields are rated at Re. 1·80 a péla. The fields are all under irrigation difficulties, depending entirely upon uncertain springs and rain. In these cases the entry was evidently originally 80c., and has been changed by some rascal into Re. 1·80, the one rupee having no doubt been taken off some other entry.

Fields in Mudunpiṭagama are rated at Re. 1·80 a péla. Other portions of the same field, exactly similarly circumstanced, are rated at Re. 1·40.

In Radakandurégama, fields of 1 péla and 5 kurunies, originally written apparently Rs. 2·10, have been changed to Rs. 2·70 by changing the figure "1" into "7." These are really third class fields: water short, exposed to wind. The rate is Re. 1·80 per péla.

Fields cultivated only once in five years under the Kandé-ela were made to pay a yearly commutation of 50c. a péla. Taking them as nine-fold fields, they should properly pay one-fifth of Re. 1·25, that is 25c. a péla—just half the sum they have been rated at.

Entries 494 and 495. The original entry in 494 appears to have been 2 péias and 5 kurunies: and it was evidently altered to 1 péla and 5 kurunies, and the tax from Re 1·15 to 75c. The original entry in 495: 3 pelas and 5 kurunies, was changed into 1 péla and 5 kurunies, the rate from Re. 1·15 to 75c.

Entry 1,785. Two péias paid Rs. 3·40. It is a second class land paying Re. 1·70 instead of Re. 1·20 a péla.

Field 2,802 and others of same village (Yaṭipaláta), being admittedly first class fields, are rated at only Re. 1 per péla, while all other fields of the same class in that village are paying Re. 1·40 a péla.

Memorandum upon the Condition of the Kóralé of Mahawędiraṭa in the Division of Wellassa.

February 2.—The area of the kóralé is 476¼ square miles: its population 1,907. It contains no permanent source of irrigation whatever. All the fields in it depend wholly upon rain. These are very much scattered. The biggest range is at Buddagama. The average extent of each range is a couple of amunams. A few of these ranges have little unreliable tanks attached to them, filled by rain, with bunds not more than 3 ft. or 4 ft. high. In dry years those tanks never fill at all. There are no channels led from running water anywhere in the kóralé. The most frequently cultivated fields are only cultivated once every two or three years. Some fields have not been cultivated more than once in the now expiring commutation of ten years.

The rate in last commutation was from 18c. to 25c. a péla. In estimating thus low, consideration was given to the fact that tax was to be paid every year, whereas the field was only likely to be cultivated once every two or three years. The maximum crop ever yielded is given as seven-fold. This was under the most favourable circumstances.

As regards the price of paddy in the kóralé, the people never actually sell it. They keep all they raise for food. In order to raise money they sell Indian corn and kurakkan. These they sell to tavalams (droves of transport bullocks) or to passers by.

A man will eat a little more than a bushel of paddy in a month. A bushel of kurakkan will feed a man fully for a month. Witnesses say that a bushel of paddy is held to be of equal value with a bushel of kurakkan. A bushel of kurakkan ordinarily fetches 50c. When there is scarcity in Batticaloa it will fetch 75c. The average price of paddy should be set down as 50c..... The drinking water here is abominable.

Division of Wellassa, Nikawętiya Kóralé.

The area is 99¼ square miles, and the population 921. The kóralé is one large forest with open grass land interspersed. The people live chiefly upon the produce of chenas. Paddy cultivation is very limited and scattered,

The biggest collection of fields is at Badullawela, containing however not more than fifteen amunams. The fields in the kóralé are all almost entirely dependent upon rain. There are a few small elas from kanduras (brooks), but as the kanduras are liable to dry up these sources of irrigation are very unstable. There is not a single field in the kóralé that can be annually cultivated.

There are no tanks at all in this kóralé. In this respect it differs from Dambagalla and Mahawedirata. The fact is, they have more available running water here than in either of those kóralés.

The Sellakká-oya, which rises in Galbokka in Dambagalla, traverses the kóralé carrying enough water to irrigate all Wellassa together; but there is not a drop of water taken out of it for irrigation purposes, there being no cultivable lands situated at a suitable level. At least so the people say, but I think the country ought to be carefully examined by a surveyor. Why not try pumps?

The maximum fold for this kóralé is given as seven-fold. (This we decide after hearing many witnesses, most of whom were unwilling to admit over six-fold.)

The marketable commodities of the kóralé are Indian corn, kurakkan, muṇ, cattle, horns, skins, gallnuts.

Customers come from Batticaloa and from Lunugalla (on the Badulla-Batticaloa road). The inhabitants barter their produce for the most part, getting salt, tobacco, and cloths in exchange.

They do not have grow el-wí (a dry grain, something like barley in appearance) so successfully as in Mahawedirata.

Paraṇgi is frequent, but not so prevalent as in Mahawedirata. (While travelling through Mahawedirata, about thirty persons that afflicted applied to me for exemption from road tax, while less than half a dozen appeared before me in Nikawetiya.) One thing, they have better drinking water here than in Mahawedirata.

Division of Wellassa, Dambagalla Kóralé. Memorandum made at Mágandana.

February 4.—The area is 32½ square miles, and the population 4,632.

Marketable produce are Indian corn, kurakkan, betel, and cattle. They sell neither paddy nor el-wí, keeping all they raise of these grains for food. Their chief customers are traders from Batticaloa and Lunugalla.

The price they get for Indian corn and kurakkan is from 50c. to Re. 1 per bushel. Betel they sell for 25c. for a thousand leaves. For full-grown cattle they get Rs. 10 to Rs. 12.

A bushel of paddy is worth two bushels of kurakkan. The average value of paddy will be 75c. a bushel. People admit that when they are out of paddy they are glad to travel to Butalé and buy it there at Re. 1 a bushel.

There is not a single anicut or ela in the kóralé. The fields are all either dependent entirely upon rain, without any irrigation contrivance whatever, or upon small tanks filled by rain, not one of which has a sluice or a bund more than 4 ft. or 5 ft. high.

Few fields are capable of yearly cultivation—not more than twenty amunams out of a total of 540 amunams.

Wellassa Division, Nilgala Kóralé. Memorandam made at Nilgala.

February 7.—The area of this kóralé is 158 square miles, and the population 1,774. The kóralé is one vast forest with little patches of cultivation here and there. Its climate is extremely dry. The food of the inhabitants is chiefly Indian corn and kurakkan. They no doubt derive more food from the chase than they are willing to own to.

The chief produce is naturally Indian corn and kurakkan.

The principal villages are Lokgalwela, with about thirty acres of mud land; Dánigala, with thirteen amunams; and Nilgala, with fourteen amunams. These are the only tracts which are cultivated regularly every year.

The Gal-oya traverses the kóralé, upon which there are four wooden dams, serving the villages of Lokgalwela Dánigala, and Nilgala.

The Hámapolakandura has three small dams upon it, which water Hámapola village containing thirty amunams of which eighteen belong to the Crown.

There are other small dams over more or less inconstant rivulets.

There are four small tanks, none of them with head of more than 2 ft. or 3 ft.

The fields under the Gal-oya are the only ones which have a certain and constant supply of water. All other irrigation sources are liable to become exhausted in dry weather. Many fields are entirely dependent upon rain.

El-wí is grown in wet years. The crop-fold is variously described. Nine-fold is reluctantly admitted as the maximum. (My Interpreter tells me that a man unsuspectingly admitted to him that he got twelve-fold in a good wet year out of a rain-fed field.)

The best customers of the kóralé are traders from Batticaloa. Purchasers also come from Ekkiriya and Kotabowe.

Indian corn sells in advance for from 37c. to 50c. a bushel. At best times it fetches 75c. upon delivery.

Kurakkan sells in advance for 62c., upon delivery for from 75c. to a rupee.

Chickens are sold to itinerant traders at 12½c. cash. (The people say that they are afraid to carry them for sale to bazaars, because pretending purchasers snatch them!)

There is an abundance of cattle in the kóralé, the grazing grounds being capital. Buffaloes sell for Rs. 10 (three-year old), ordinary cattle for Rs. 12.

No inconsiderable profit is made out of the sale of gallnuts. Traders give 25c. in cloth and tobacco for a bushel in advance. A man will take, it is said, two to four days to collect a bushel of these nuts in. If he waits his time he can sell them for 50c a bushel.

Horns sell for 9c. a lb. Deer skins sell for Re. 1 each, elk skins for from 62c. to 75c.

Paddy in exchange for Indian corn or kurakkan is given bulk for bulk. The people themselves admit to getting Re. 1 to Re. 1·25 at the place of delivery for paddy. When they take advances on crop they get 50c. a bushel. They admit that if a man can await a favourable opportunity he can get as much as Re. 1·50 for his paddy.

I think the price of paddy may be fairly put down as varying from 75c. to Re. 1.

The following instance of hardship in the last commutation settlement comes under my notice:—Godakumbura (No. 307 in the register), of 1 amunam and 2 pelas in extent, which has never once been cultivated in the last ten years, has paid regularly Re. 1·50 a year, and will accordingly have paid Rs. 15 by the end of the term for nothing. The Kórála says that there are about twenty fields circumstanced exactly as this, notably Nos. 66 and 67, which will have each paid Rs. 20 by the end of the commutation, though never once cultivated.

Division of Bintenna, Aralupitiya Kóralé. Notes made at Bubulé.

February 12.—Present a large concourse of people, the Ratémahatmayá of the division, and the headmen of the kóralé. The area of this kóralé is 56 square miles, and contains a very partially distributed population of 2,584 persons. Its surface is flat for the most part and covered with forest and grass land. The mean elevation of this plateau is 800 ft. above the sea.

The inhabitants chiefly support themselves upon the produce of chenas, Indian corn and kurakkan. A little el-wí is grown. There is very little paddy cultivation. The only tolerably considerable range of paddy fields is at Ridimáliyadda, where there are about 40 amunams more or less precariously watered. The next largest range is at Pattiyágoda, ten or twelve amunams. The next in the village of Aralupitiya, where about the same extent is cultivated.

There are a few cocoanut gardens in the kóralé.

Marketable commodities are Indian corn, selling in the village at 50c., in the market at from 75c. to Re. 1; kurakkan, selling in the village at 62c., in the market at 75c.; muṇ, selling at Rs. 2·50 to Rs. 3 a bushel in Badulla; cocoanuts, at 2c. each in the village; rice, 12c. a measure in the village; cattle, at Rs. 12 for a well-grown beast.

The people get money to pay their taxes chiefly by the sale of Indian corn and kurukkan.

Traders come to purchase their produce from Badulla, Lunugalla, and Bintęnna. The people also sometimes carry produce themselves to Badulla or Lunugalla—two days' journey in either case. "In fact," people say, "we have no difficulty about selling our produce when we have any to sell."

A little profit is also made out of the sale of horns and skins: also from gallnuts, for which they can get 37c. to 50c. a bushel. A bushel of gallnuts means a day's work. The gathering is done in April and May. Traders come from Batticaloa and from Lunugalla to buy these nuts.

The chief stream is the Hępola-oya, next to it the Ulhiţiyá-oya, next the Maduru-oya. There are only two village dams (yearly renewed) across the Hępola-oya, both at Ridimáliyadda. This oya is sometimes dry for two months together—in August and September; but in those months water is not wanted for the fields.

The difficulty of irrigation at Ridimáliyadda is, that many of the fields are above the usual level of the surface of the river. Those fields, 19 amunams in all, which are under service of the dams, are annually cultivated. The rest are entirely dependent upon springs and rain. These fields are only cultivated every two or three years.

There is one village dam (annually renewed) over the Ulhiţiyáwa-oya, which waters the fields of Pattiyágoda, comprising ten amunams: but this oya is apt to dry up when its water is much needed. Consequently the fields under it are not cultivated regularly every year—not even one.

There is no dam over the Maduru-oya. It is too low. There is no practicable field land, in fact, near it. There are a few miserable little tanks watering very precariously a few amunams—nowhere more than five amunams. There are about 300 amunams altogether in the kóralé, out of which about 30 amunams only can be regularly cultivated.

The most productive fields in Aralupiţiya are at Ridimáliyadda. The very best crop that was ever got out of the best of these fields was ten-fold. Eight-fold would be the average, not more.

Some malay fields give best crops on the rare occasions when they can be cultivated .....

The price of paddy for the purposes of the grain tax settlement of this kóralé is fixed at 75c. a bushel, which the assessors think very fair.

Division of Bintęnna, Polwatte Kóralé. Memorandum of the purport of Evidence given by Witnesses in the presence of the Commissioner and Assessors at Bubulé.

February 12.—The area of the kóralé is 50 square miles, and the population 2,195. The surface of the kóralé is variable, hilly, and flat. There is more paddy cultivation in it than in Aralupiţiya. The cultivation is, however, that of dry grain. The chief villages are Mahagama, with 125 amunams; Pinnagolla, with 50 amunams; and Aráwa, with 20 amunams. Marketable produce are kurakkan, Indian corn, paddy, a few cocoanuts, and cattle, not many, because the kóralé does not boast of the fine grassy plains of Aralupiţiya and Bintęnna.

No paddy produced in the kóralé goes beyond it. There is not much sold, but what a man has to spare he can easily get a sale for. If he is not in a hurry to sell his paddy, he can get at the place of production 75c. a bushel for it. If the people took the trouble to carry it to market, which they do not, they would get a good deal more for it. They would have to take it to Taldena or Badulla, or to the single estate within reach of Kalukęlé. They are therefore more accessible to a market than their neighbours of Aralupiţiya.

There is no large oya in the kóralé. The biggest stream supplying fields is the Guruwagé-kandura. Upon it there are about fourteen small impermanent dams. This kandura waters altogether about 35 amunams—fields of Mahagama and Pinnagolla.

There is also the Aráwé-kandura, upon which the village Aráwé chiefly depends.

The Lokgal-oya, a considerable tributary of the Mahawęli-gaṇga, forms one of the boundaries of this kóralé, but it does not supply it with a drop of water for irrigation. There are 393 amunams altogether under paddy cultivation in this kóralé, only 35 of which are capable of annual cultivation. Fields dependent upon the Guruwágé-kandura are those which are most often cultivated. There are no tanks in operation. The restoration of the ruined Kumburawęwa is under consideration.

Evidence goes to show that the best crop ever reaped in the kóralé was ten-fold The average of best fields is given as eight-fold. The best fields in this kóralé are on a par with the best fields in Ridimáliyadda.

Division of Bintęnna, Bintęnna Kóralé. Notes of Evidence taken at Bubulé.

February 12.—This kóralé, the area of which is 237½ square miles, and the population 3,587, is all forest and taláwa (an open glade), flat, and of an uniform elevation of about 800 ft.

Its climate is extremely dry, and very much like that of Nilgala. The population is very sparse, the chief difficulty in the way of the advance of cultivation. There are two fine tanks which would irrigate four times the area were there hands to cultivate, to wit, Horaborawęwa and Kuḍáwęwa.

The staple food of the inhabitants is kurakkan and Indian corn. Unfortunately, there are a great number of inhabitants who do not cultivate under the two big tanks, preferring to live in isolated and ill-watered villages because their ancestors have always lived there.

The people sell most of their produce to travelling traders They raise a larger number of very good cattle, having the advantage of ample and excellent pasture grounds. Traders also visit the kóralé from Dumbara, in the Central Province.

The people have no difficulty in finding a sale for what they have to spare. They make no little profit out of the sale of venison, horns, and skins.

The price of paddy varies from 50c. to 75c. A man can always get the higher price if he watches for favourable opportunity.

There is no doubt that the fields under Horaborawęwa and Kuḍáwęwa are the best in the kóralé. The best fields will not, however, give more than ten-fold. Comparatively the fold is not so great as in less favoured parts of the kóralé (as far as irrigation is concerned), because the fields are subject to some exhaustion from being unceasingly under cultivation.

Except the ranges under Horaborawęwa and Kuḍáwęwa, there are no tracts in the kóralé subject to regular annual cultivation. All other lands are very precariously supplied with water.

Wiyaluwa Division, Wiyaluwa Kóralé. Memorandum of purport of Evidence given by Witnesses in the presence of the Commissioner and Assessors at Taldena.

February 16.—Wiyaluwa kóralé is chiefly hilly in character, its elevation varying from 500 ft. to 3,500 ft. The inhabitants depend mainly upon dry grain cultivation—kurukan chiefly, next to that Indian corn. A little el-wi is produced. Marketable produce with their prices are, kurukkan, from 75c. to Re. 1 a bushel; paid for in advance, 37c. a bushel. Indian corn, sold in advance for 25c. a bushel. If a man can afford to wait for a good market he can sell kurukkan for 75c. a bushel, and Indian corn for the same price. Paddy: money advances are obtained on the crops at 50c a bushel. At a favourable opportunity a man can get 75c. a bushel at his granary. As for markets, there are villages within ten miles of Badulla. Uḍawela (50 amunams) is only four miles from Badulla. The best villages are Máliyadda and Thundawela (100 amunams and 60 amunams, respectively). These villages are within a day's journey of Badulla and close to the Lower Badulla road. They send paddy in the rice form often to Badulla. Two and a half bushels of paddy make one bushel of rice. "It is sold in Badulla for Rs. 3·50 a bushel." (A Badulla man present says that the regular price paid in Badulla for village rice is 12c. a measure, viz., Rs. 4 a bushel.)

Estates send into Wiyaluwa for paddy, paying from 75c. to Re. 1 a bushel. In the threshing season they will pay only 50c. a bushel. (Somebody says, "No; estate gentlemen have always to pay Re.1 a bushel.") A man can only carry one bushel on his head. If he takes his paddy to Badulla he can sometimes get Re. 1·50 for it

The Kórála says: "The rate in the commutation of 1878 is a rupee a bushel. This was felt to be very high. A great many fields were taken over by the Crown for default of payment of paddy tax. The arrears accrued from this cause. The tax was too high all round."

The people are naturally most severely pressed for their tax at reaping and threshing time. It is therefore at that season that they are mostly driven to sell their paddy. They must consequently accept 50c. or 75c. It is very common for them to raise money to pay their taxes, at the rate of 50c. a bushel, in advance of crop.

The maximum fold for the kóralé is given as ten-fold. The Kórála says: "I would instance Ankanuwé-kumbura, in extent three amunams. It was cultivated in 1886 and gave only eight-fold. It has not given ten-fold more than three or four times in the last ten years. That field pays Rs. 14 a year in the present commutation."

Wiyaluwa Division, Oyapaláta.—The circumstances of this kóralé are accepted as being exactly the same as those of Wiyaluwa The assessors think that the same rates for paddy should be observed. They are satisfied that the outturn of fields is on the same scale. The highest fold is considered to be ten-fold.

Wiyaluwa Division, Soronátota—This is a very hilly kóralé and close to Badulla. The farthest village is Taldena, ten miles off, but the bulk of the villages are within half a day's easy journey of Badulla. People in Badulla are always ready to give advances on crop, or to buy paddy if it be taken there. There are very few fields that cannot be cultivated twice a year: some are cultivated twice a year.

One advantage over Oyapaláta and Wiyaluwa this kóralé possesses is, that it can get a market for its straw. It has, in fact, a better market for every article of produce. The people do not rear many cattle, but they go into Bintenna and Wellassa and buy cattle, selling them again in Badulla at an advantage Besides this, the villagers can get employment on the estates round about. The average crop-fold of best fields is stated at ten-fold.

European Industries.

The gentleman to whom the writer has been indebted for similar help during several successive years, gives the following intelligent and pithy summary of the present condition and prospects of estates in Badulla proper and Madulsíma:—

I much regret the delay in sending you the information you asked for. I append a few notes now however, which may be of use to you.

Tea.—There has not been any very large increase of the area planted in tea during 1887. Yet there has been some, and the area now under tea in Badulla and Madulsíma cannot be under 4,000 acres. The first clearings planted (now four years ago), although not yet in full bearing, give every promise of yielding excellent returns, while the quality of tea sold in the London market proves beyond a doubt that the tea grown in Uva leaves nothing to be desired in point of quality and flavour, the prices obtained in the London market for tea from Uva having topped all Indian and Ceylon teas. This being so while the tea is young, may we not expect great things when the tea is older and in full bearing? The tea crop during 1887 from Badulla and Madulsíma could not have been under 60,000 lb. to 80,000 lb., while estimates for 1888 are as high as 75,000 lb. from some individual estates. The area in tea in Uva cannot now be much under 9,000 acres.

Coffee.—The area under coffee has not been largely reduced during the year, and the crop was much better than that of the previous year, estimates of crop having in almost every case been exceeded. I regret that I cannot give you definite figures, as it is almost impossible to obtain these, but I think the coffee crop of Uva could not have been much under 500,000 bushels parchment. One important feature was the heavy crops of coffee from many of the native gardens, which had borne little or no crop for some years previously. The prospects for crop for 1887–88 are very good, although not equal to that of 1886–87.

Cinchona.—Very low prices have ruled for this product during the year, it having been quoted at one time as low as 1¾*d.* per unite of quinine, the lowest price on record. Harvesting has consequently not been on such a large scale as would have been the case had the price been more favourable, the quantity harvested being probably about 14,000 cwt.

A good deal of tea has been planted up in cinchona areas, and as very little planting has been done the cinchona area is thus reduced.

Cart hire for coffee has averaged 50c. from Badulla town to Colombo for 1886–87.

A considerable quantity of the tea has gone forward *viâ* Nánu-oya, the cart hire from Badulla to that station being 62c. per half chest ranging from 50 lb. to 60 lb. net.

The average price of rice in Badulla for the year was Rs. 3·78 per bushel, a large quantity of the rice coming from the coast of India *viâ* Batticaloa.

Leaf Disease, &c.—The year has been one of comparative freedom from this pest, except on coffee weakened by the attacks of green bug, which did considerable damage on some estates. The heavy rains of November and December, accompanied by the cold, gave green bug a very severe check, killing off at least 75 per cent. of it; but I regret to say it is again increasing and spreading.

Another gentleman offers the following remarks in reference to Madulsíma in particular:—

Uva Tea.—As to worth, there can be no two opinions. It surpasses that of any other district. The tea grown in patana soil in Madulsíma I have not seen equalled anywhere, at any age from one year up to four years old. The district is but young, and it is not known yet what can be done in the way of yield; but 300 lb. per acre has been secured from off three year-old tea, and we look forward to nothing less than 1,000 lb. in the net for the future.

Tea is being planted everywhere and by everyone instead of coffee. Coffee is looked upon as doomed, although there are fine fields still left in Madulsíma; and where attention in the way of pruning and handling has been bestowed, good returns have been the result.

The tree is now putting on fresh leaf, and is looking as healthy as ever it did, and promises a good crop for next year

Every estate has been harvesting cinchona, and, with the cutting out of diseased trees, a goodly quantity will go forward from this district.

I suppose we have about 1,500 acres of tea in Hewá Eliya and Madulsíma.

Rice has been plentiful, selling at Rs 3 35 per bushel—the lowest price it has ever been sold at.

Weather has been since January unprecedentedly dry up to now. Green bug and leaf disease are at a stand-still; but there are signs of the former returning.

Cost of transport: coffee, 60c. a bushel; cinchona, Rs. 2 a cwt.; tea 2c. per lb. net weight.

Mr. James Duncan, Secretary of the Planters' Association for the District, has been good enough to favour the writer with the following valuable remarks upon Haputalé:—

Tea—The acreage of tea planted in Haputalé in 1887 I estimate at 800 acres. The total acreage previously planted, as ascertained from returns from each individual estate, was 4,080 acres, so that at date (April 13, 1888) nearly 5,000 acres are under tea in the district. Only a small acreage was plucked from, and most of that for two or three months only at the end of the year. For this reason, to state how much gave crop would be delusive. I estimate the crop sent from Haputalé at 20,000 lb.

Proprietors here have not been under the same necessity as proprietors in other parts of the Island, of plucking their tea when very young, and should in the future reap the fruits of their forbearance.

The prospects of the cultivation are promising: the few patches that were plucked regularly gave satisfactory results as regards both quantity and quality. A considerable acreage of patana land is planted with tea, and promises well.

Cinchona.—Little or no cinchona was planted, and less harvested than for some time, doubtless owing to very unsatisfactory prices for this product prevailing during the year. The area under cultivation remains about the same as before.

Coffee.—The crop of 1886-87 was over the average. The lower estates depending on autumn crops gave more than an average, and some of them the largest crop they have given since 1880. The higher spring crop estates also did fairly well.

I estimate the crop despatched at 250,000 bushels. This is a better crop than the district is ever likely to give again.

Green bug did much damage during the year, and a large acreage of coffee has reached the stage where it ceases to be profitable. We are profiting from the experience of others; and tea is nearly in all cases being planted where coffee is unprofitable.

It is useless trying to blind ourselves to the very rapid decadence of coffee. It is only a question of two or three years when what was, and even now is, the premier coffee district of the Island must be chiefly dependent on tea.

What is very gratifying, showing the confidence which proprietors have in the future, is that little or no land is being allowed to go out of cultivation, and during the year under review the area cultivated has been considerably increased

The average transport rates were, for coffee 50c. per bushel, for tea and cinchona 1½c. per lb.

The price of rice ranged from Rs. 3·37½ to Rs 4·12½.

The weather during the coffee blossoming seasons was most favourable, but the trees in most cases were too enfeebled by disease to respond, and crops, with the exception of a few of the higher estates, which have suffered less from the ravages of green bug, will be very short in the coming year.

The rainfall during the year was under the average: the first nine months were abnormally dry, which was made up for to some extent by heavy rainfall in the last three.

The areas covered by different products at the end of 1888 may be approximately set down as follows:—

	Acres.		Acres.
Coffee	31,500	Liberian Coffee	200
Tea	9,000	Rubber	122
Cinchona	1,200	Other Products	200
Cardamons	500		

V.—THE STATE OF CRIME IN THE PROVINCE.

Serious crime was perhaps below the average. Cattle-stealing was less prevalent than in the previous years—a crime which, in Ceylon, is always a pretty fair gauge of the condition of the poorer classes.

When this crime is on the increase, the conclusion may be safely drawn that there is a scarcity of food. The cattle are usually stolen to be eaten, not often to be carried away and sold. Cattle stealing is much encouraged by the carelessness of the owners of cattle, who take little pains to watch them when they are at pasture or to secure them properly at night.

In Ceylon generally, murders are more frequently the outcome of passion than planned for the mere purpose of plunder.

The best deterrent for all crimes here is the free use of the lash. This is the only punishment a native really fears.

The following is a comparative statement of serious crimes for the last two years. They speak to the advantage of 1887:—

	1886.		1887.	
	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.
Number of persons who met with violent death	—	11	—	5
Number of verdicts of murder at inquests	3	—	3	—
Charges of murder tried ...	3	3	1	1
Charges of culpable homicide ...	3	3	2	2
Charges of cattle-stealing ...	55	146	51	138
Criminal force and assault ...	175	11	218	5
Robbery	19	47	11	35

The number of cases of accidental death is large: 32 in 1886 and 31 in 1887.

VI.—PUBLIC WORKS EXECUTED.

The following is a list of the works undertaken during the year by the Public Works Department:—

No. of Estimate.		Expenditure. Rs. c.
1,051 ...	For building a pile dam at Kumbalwęlla	612 37
8 ...	For building a hospital and medical officer's quarters, Lunugalla	2,805 95
810 ...	For building walling, &c., along the banks of the Hangala-ęla	1,325 61
29 ...	For road from Wellawáya to Monaragalla	13,698 92
1,036 ...	For completing the bund and for a sluice to Diyabuntaláwa tank	393 33
46 ...	For continuing the bridle road between Umá-oya and Uḍa Pussęlláwa	3,777 23
17 ...	For additional accommodation and improvements and repairs to the police station, Badulla	2,180 0
18 ...	For building two new rooms to the Badulla kachchéri ...	6,517 0
398 ...	For shifting tiles, police barracks, Badulla... ...	76 60
399 ...	For repairs to police station, Haldummulla ...	376 40
400 ...	For colourwashing and tarring walls, &c., police station, Węlimaḍa	22 77
375 ...	For immediate and urgent repairs to police buildings ...	1,386 92
380 ...	For whitewashing hospitals	237 22
642 ...	For repairs to the old Oriental Bank Corporation house at Haldummulla	1,999 0
975 ...	For repairs to Palugama cooly shed	166 50
687 ...	For additions to medical officer's quarters, Haputalé ...	1,240 42
797 ...	For building a kitchen and caretaker's room, smallpox hospital, Badulla	80 0
962 ...	For sinking a well at the Badulla hospital	114 42
995 ...	For a temporary shed for a cart and bier at Badulla hospital	20 12

No. of Estimate.			Expenditure. Rs. c.
1,046	...	For payment of excess of cost over estimate for castings for Badulla kachchéri	222 95
		For maintenance of roads	86,795 88
314	...	For upkeep of bridges, Province of Uva	4,145 77
343	...	For the upkeep of irrigation works at Sudupanáwela ...	159 66
344	...	Do. do. Gal-oya ...	116 57
345	...	Do. do. Taldena-ęla ...	491 53
346	...	Do. do. Horaborawęwa ...	299 53
350	...	For small repairs to irrigation works in the Province of Uva	155 58
619	...	For completing the west Gal-oya-ęla	3,946 53
620	...	For building walls along the Kanda-ęla	4,691 85
762	...	For retaining walls along the Diyakola-ęla	489 69
763	...	For sluice and spill for Elamallanda tank ...	968 93
888	...	For survey of channel from Nuwara Eliya lake to Mipilimana tank...	499 86
913	...	For earthwork to be done at Kanda-ęla ...	958 99
914	...	For earthwork, West Gal-oya-ęla	1,100 49
956	...	For completing the two new rooms to the Badulla kachchéri	1,233 5
692	...	For improvements, &c., to Lémastoṭa road ...	4,597 39
751	...	For maintenance of the bridle road from Blackpool to Haputalé gap	2,485 81
329	...	For constructing a bridge at Dikapiṭiya on the Lémastoṭa road	5,053 58
		Road Ordinance Funds.	
1104/86	...	For repairs to the resthouse at Tanamalwila ...	100 0
556	...	For walling in springs of the resthouse at Bibilé ...	95 24
779	...	For urgent repairs to resthouses in the Province of Uva	961 79
780	...	For repairs to Wilson's Bungalow	415 34
		For maintenance of roads	8,309 64

The principal thoroughfares were all well maintained throughout the year with a low expenditure.

The following is a list of the minor irrigation works executed during the year under the vote of Rs. 1,000 entrusted by the Central Irrigation Board to the Government Agent :—

Name of Work.	Amount of Estimate. Rs. c.	Amount Spent. Rs. c.
Dangamuwe-ęla	225 0 ...	233 46
Dambawinna-ęla	65 0 ...	79 81
Kęṭakęlé-ęla	75 0 ...	75 0
Scouring sluice for Kendale-ęla	130 0 ...	130 0
For making ball pipes for Alutkendale and Umá-ęlas, and purchase of materials, &c. (cement, blasting powder, steel, &c.), transport, &c.	400 0 ...	326 44
Dunumadaláwe dam, for fixing ball sluice (work done in 1886)	16 18 ...	16 18
Compensation for land taken at Kumbalwela for opening of Kumbalwela-ęla	60 0 ...	60 0
	971 18	920 89

Some excellent work was done upon minor roads, mainly through the kind co-operation of estate managers, who undertook to see the votes upon roads in which they were interested expended to the greatest possible advantage. All the principal minor roads in the Province were provided with mileposts and direction posts. Very considerable progress has been made towards perfecting our minor road system within the last few years, and Unofficial Members of the Road Committees are entitled to the best thanks of the community for their intelligent and unremitting labours to this end.

Considerable progress was made in the improvement of the road from Badulla to Spring Valley. The Kuḍá-oya was spanned by an iron bridge, which will prove of immense benefit to many hundreds of villagers and estate coolies who use this road, which, because of the sudden rising of the Kuḍá-oya in rainy weather, was sometimes impracticable for a day or two together. It only remains, in order to complete the usefulness of this road, to bridge the Badulla-oya, a rather ambitious undertaking because of the width of that river at the crossing, but estates have promised to help, and the Local Board would also no doubt contribute funds. A movement was on foot towards the end of the year to collect subscriptions, and probably a sufficient sum will be raised soon enough to allow of the work being undertaken in 1888.

The resthouses throughout the Province were maintained in good order, and some very desirable permanent improvements therein effected. The following is a statement of the expenditure upon resthouses, which are built and maintained wholly from Road Committee funds :—

Resthouses.	In Money. Rs. c.	In Labour. Rs. c.
Contribution towards Paṭṭipola resthouse... ...	500 0 ...	—
Repair of Haldummulla do.	770 0 ...	—
Do. Wilson's Bungalow do.	502 0 ...	10 50
Do. Ęṭampiṭiya do.	22 0 ...	—
Do. Koslanda do.	6 0 ...	—
Do. Bandárawela do.	15 0 ...	—
Urgent repairs	1,000 0 ...	—
Lunugalla resthouse	— ...	4 50
Fort McDonald resthouse	— ...	4 50
Taldena do.	— ...	6 0
Total ...	2,815 0	25 50

Bungalows	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Dambagalla bungalow	13 0 ...	48 0
Muhamderat do.	14 10 ...	—
Kandadupaṇguwa (new bungalow)	34 30 ...	127 50
Hępola ambalam	22 93 ...	3 0
Nilgala bungalow	9 0 ...	51 0
Alutnuwara do.	56 50 ...	28 50
Urgent repairs	20 0 ...	—
Nakula bungalow	— ...	13 50
Alupota do.	— ...	33 0
Bibilé do	— ...	64 50
Bubulé do.	. ...	112 50
Kumbukwela ambalam	— ...	12 0
Męḍagama bungalow	— ...	13 50
Kuḍawęwa do.	— ...	30 0
Węwatta do	— ...	37 50
Urania ambalam	— —	12 0
Total ...	169 83	586 50

It will be observed that ambalams, or halting-places provided for the gratuitous use of native travellers, received no inconsiderable subsidy.

The following were the chief municipal works executed by the Local Board :—

Two new public latrines were built.

A new road was made from Lower Bazaar street to the head of the race course, of great convenience to the town people and of considerable benefit to the town generally from a sanitary point of view. This road and the one past the mosque, opened towards the end of 1886, now form two invaluable arteries for the admission of pure air into the most thickly-populated quarter of the town.

An entirely new road, skirting the town and leading to the new general cemetery, was cut, about three-quarters of a mile in length and twenty-two feet in width, part of which was metalled before the year was out. On each side were planted Inga Sáman trees, which should form a beautiful avenue in process of time.

It is proposed to cut a third road parallel to these and at right angles to the bazaar, between Jubilee road and the Mutiyaṇgana Viháré.

A footpath leading from King street to the Public Works Department factory behind the Provincial Engineer's residence was widened and made passable for carts.

The several public bathing places in the town were improved or repaired.

The Board had under its consideration a scheme for providing the town with a sufficient supply of good drinking-water (the existing supply having been condemned as containing too large a quantity of lime), and is still in correspondence with Government as to the means of providing the necessary funds. It is hoped that Government will undertake half the cost.

Much was done during the year in the way of planting ornamental trees in the town and in roading and planting the public recreation grounds.

The drainage of the town was also in many places improved.

Funds were obtained (chiefly jubilee contributions) for the purpose of ornamenting the Town Hall. Estimates and a tasteful design were made by Mr. C. E. Spooner, but the execution of the work was deferred to 1888.

VII.—PUBLIC WORKS PROPOSED.

The following is a list of the works provided in the Supply Bill for 1888, exclusive of irrigation works and road upkeep :—

	Rs.
For building industrial school (Government moiety)	3,207
Road from Hindugalla to Ella	6,000
Bridge over Ęlatoṭa-oya on bridle road from Haputalé to Wilson's Bungalow...	2,689
Bridge over Kalupadiya-oya on same road	2,300

The following is a list of the votes for the upkeep of the principal roads in the Province :—

	Miles.	From Road Committee Funds.	Government Money.	Rate per Mile.
Blackpool to Haputalé ...	25 ...	— ...	1,250 0 ...	50 0
Badulla to Taldena ...	10 ...	553 75 ...	2,326 0 ...	287 98
Badulla to boundary of E. P.	49·50 ...	2,750 0 ...	19,943 0 ...	458 67
Dikwęlla to Náula ...	5·50 ...	— ...	3,500 0 ...	636 36
Dikwęlla to Madulla ...	16 ...	500 0 ...	1,500 0 ...	125 0
Hakgala to Badulla ...	32·12 ...	1,875 0 ...	10,706 0 ...	391 68
Haldummulla to Nahawilla ...	14 ...	— ...	7,500 0 ...	535 71
Horton Plains road ...	13 ...	— ...	748 0 ...	57 53
Lower Badulla road, Badulla section	15 ...	500 0 ...	240 0 ...	49 33
Nahawilla to Wellawáya ...	8·50 ...	— ...	2,000 0 ...	235 29
Náula to Gurakandura ...	29 ...	3,279 75 ...	24,720 0 ...	965 50
Náula to Wellawáya ...	21 ...	500 0 ...	533 0 ...	49 19
Wellawáya to Tanamalwila ...	21 ...	500 0 ...	3,200 0 ...	176 19
Umá-oya-Uḍa Pusselláwa road	14 ...	— ...	560 0 ...	40 0

Votes have not yet, as far as the writer is aware, been apportioned for irrigation works during 1888, but it is earnestly hoped that provision will be made for the following :—

A channel to supplement the water of the Kuḍá-oya (upon which the Kanda-ęla and eleven other ęlas depend) leading into it water from either the Nánu-oya, at the Nuwara Eliya lake spill, or from the Sítá Eliya-oya; or, in failure of this channel's being constructed, a store tank at Mipilimána as proposed and described in last year's Administration Report.

The restoration of the Ambagamuwa tank in Kóngala Bintęnna, where the people suffer the utmost privations in times of drought.

The proper completion of the Taldena-ęla.

The completion of the Gal-oya scheme.

The rebuilding of the Kumbalwela dam, the present condition of which is nothing short of a public scandal.

Among particular schemes for increasing the water in the Kuḍá-oya (or Ambawęla-oya, as it is also called), sight should not be lost of the writer's proposal to form headworks for an ęla and a store tank at the same time, by throwing a dam across the Sítá Eliya stream near the small Hindu temple above the Hakgala Gardens. The advantage of this plan would be that it would supplement the irrigation not only of the valley of the Ambawela-oya, but of the ill-watered region between the Nuwara Eliya road and Fort MacDonald as well.

The following are works which it would be desirable to execute whenever the revenue will afford it. The railway to Haputalé may now be treated as a certainty :—

Extension of the railway beyond Haputalé, probably first to Passara.

A cart road from Passara to Ella, and thence to the Ratnapura road below Bandárawela, to lead traffic from Madulsíma to Haputalé (*vide* Administration Report for 1884, p. 51A).

The conversions of the Madulsíma-Passara bridle road into a cart road, with the same object in view, and the extension of this cart road three or four miles further into the District.

With the two cart roads just described in operation, not an estate in Madulsíma or in the Spring Valley group would hesitate to send its produce to Haputalé.

(Now that the continuation of the railway line to Haputalé is certain, the idea of continuing the Uḍa Pussellǽwa cart road to Badulla, suggested in former reports as desirable in preference to the Nuwara Eliya road, is, of course, out of the question.)

A bridge across the Badulla-oya.

A satisfactory water supply for the town of Badulla.

The completion of the Badulla kachchéri.

Residences for the District Engineer and the Office Assistant to the Government Agent.

The enlargement of the jail.

A public market in Badulla.

An ambalam in Badulla for the accommodation of natives frequenting the court and kachchéri.

As regards irrigation, the relief of the arid and sparsely-populated low-lying kóralés of Wellassa, Butalé, and Wellawáya should be steadily kept in view, where the most satisfactory plan would be to turn the rivers to account. Attention has in successive reports been directed to the necessity for a general survey, and the possibility of some cheap description of pump being devised workable by water wheels acting in pontoons.

The want of good drinking-water is almost as baneful to these miserable kóralés as the want of water for irrigation. Something should be done towards sinking and protecting wells.

Among special irrigation schemes to be borne in mind, most of them works already proposed and deferred for want of funds, should be noted :—

The diversion of the Kumbukan-oya into the Gal-oya below Lunugala, in the interests of fields in Batticaloa as well as in Wellassa (see the writer's recommendation in 1879 and Mr. Venning's report and estimates).

Distribution sluices for the Umá-ęla.

Dam and headworks for the Haputalé-ęla.

Sluice and spill for the Hembarawęwa in Bintęnna.

Dam and channel works for Yápámé Pallé-ęla, Oyapaláta. (For description see Administration Report for 1886, p. 104A.)

Repairs and improvements to the Pissauda-ęla Paṭṭipola (suggested in Administration Report for 1884, p. 57A).

Improving the dams and channels of the Ekkiriya and Komáraké-ęla in Oyapaláta.

Restoration of the Umákandura-węwa as suggested in Administration Report for 1884, p. 70A.

The proper completion of the Kumbalwela channel.

The completion of the Diyakola-ęla.

To enumerate the small village works which stand in need of Government help, and fully deserve it, would be an almost endless task, and such a list would be out of place here. Few that have not already received assistance from Government are thoroughly effective, because good masonry work is altogether beyond the capacity of the villager. These works will be now taken up systematically by the Government Agent under the vote annually placed in his hands, as yet much smaller than could be desired, but with which, however, already much sound relief has been given in blasting and building work. Among the hills where the features of the country are so often steep and rocky, it is impossible to construct permanent irrigation channels without gunpowder and cement.

The writer will be pardoned for repeating here some general remarks upon irrigation in Uva, which occur in his report for the year 1884. He still strongly advocates the adoption of methods of construction and repair based upon the native model, and adheres to the policy of making existing works sound, rather than restoring ruined and deserted ones.

To the ordinary mind it is incomprehensible that no cheaper sluice can be provided for the smallest village tank than one costing something over Rs. 1,000, or that nothing but the most highly finished masonry will suffice for a dam across a kandura. The stick dams which have been constructed within the last few years have served their purpose admirably, and when the posts rot or are carried away the villagers can themselves replace them. What is chiefly wanted is that holes should be drilled in the rock bottom of the stream, in which to firmly socket the uprights in the framework of the dam.

As for sluices for small tanks, pipe and ball sluices could be provided with very little expense, particularly if the pipe be of earthenware or wood.

The question of irrigation is, of course, the one which chiefly concerns the prosperity of the people of this District. Everywhere in the hills there is an abundant and constant source of supply, but this supply, though very largely utilised, is by no means fully turned to account. Dams and channels are very plentiful, but they are seldom entirely effective, except when the work has been executed under the direction of Government engineers. The low

lands of the District are traversed by half a dozen large streams, the water of which never fails, but these have been little availed of in modern days, because of the difficulty of conducting the water from them to the centres of population, and the people mainly depend upon rain. In the hills we have water, land, and labour in abundance; almost all that is wanted is that village works should be repaired and improved. The hill people have constructed their channels and dams with great labour and no inconsiderable skill, in spite often of many natural difficulties The dams, which are usually formed of boughs and mats of patana grass supported upon piles inserted in holes and fissures in the rocky bed of the stream, and the headworks, which are of course of a like temporary nature, are constantly imperilled by sudden freshets. The channels have often to be carried round very precipitous features of country, where nothing but substantial masonry, such as does not lie within the means or skill of Kandyan villagers, would be properly effective. From the necessarily imperfect character of these works, which require constant attention, much water is lost before the fields are reached. There are remains of tanks in the hills, some of which are now being restored, but they were small, and appear not to have had much engineering skill applied to them; many of them give rise to the suspicion that they were failures from the beginning.

The rice lands in the plains are supplied chiefly by rain-fed tanks. Here we have, now, a very scattered and poor population—poor and ill-fed because of periodic visitations of drought, which affect alike both wet and dry cultivation.

We have thus in Uva two broad divisions of the question arising out of differences in topography, climate, and distribution of the population.

With regard to the hill-country the question is easy. Help the people to make their irrigation works effective in proportion to their ability to bring land under cultivation, assist them to supply themselves with water, at all events sufficient to irrigate the whole asweddumised area every season, and await results. Here are no problems of settling a population. We have lands opened and openable, and we have hands to till them. Given a sufficiency of water, there must be increased cultivation, and consequent increased prosperity and increased revenue.

The Uva low lands comprise the following kóralés :—

	Square Miles.	Population.		Square Miles.	Population.
Bintęnna	237½	3,587	Mahavędirata	476¼	1,907
Aralupitiya	56	2,584	Buttala-Vędirata	350	6,763
Palwatta	50	2,195	Buttala	115	1,201
Part of Wiyaluwa	100	2,700	Deyannégampaha	78½	784
Part of Oyapaláta	50	3,900	Kattramagama	180	862
Węgam pattu	58¾	6,068	Sittrama	156¼	
Męddagam pattu	157	6,309	Pandikulam	122	
Nilgala	158	1,774	Kóngala Bintęnna	144⅜	569
Nikavitiya	99¼	921	Part of Wellawáya	150	700
Dambagalla	32¼	4,632			

They form a flat half-zone stretching to within an average distance of ten miles from the sea round the base of the mountains. This plain rises gradually from about a hundred feet to some four or five hundred feet above sea-level, and is covered mainly with low jungle and grass land, but forests occur wherever there is sufficient moisture, as along the borders of rivers and streams. The area is 2,770 miles, over which, except in Węgam pattu and Męddagam pattu, the population is very thinly and widely sprinkled. The whole population is 47,400. The ruins of tanks, anicuts, and channels, point to great agricultural activity in former times, in regions which are now covered with almost impenetrable jungle. Some of these, the Horaborawęwa, Kudawęwa, Mędabęddawęwa, Gal-oya, Buttala, and Sudupanwela works, have been restored by Government within recent years, feeding localities where the population is comparatively dense; but the little isolated communities which represent this region chiefly, having failed to migrate, as they might have been expected to have done, to new centres of cultivation, have benefited nothing from what has been done. Their tanks fill only once in every two or three years, and are liable to be thrown into ruin by any sudden and violent occurrence of rain, through the absence of proper flood outlets and sluices and through the weakness of their bunds.

Here the proper course would seem to be to build dams across the rivers at well-selected points, with the view to attracting about them the existing population within reasonable distance. Practically, this course has not, so far, been found to prove successful. Kandyan villagers fail to migrate under very strong inducement. Tissamaharáma in Hambantota may be taken as an example. There are hundreds of families within the Uva border living within 20 miles of this splendid work, who are without any regular cultivation, and who suffer from periodic famine, and yet prefer to cling to their squalid homes, supporting life when they have consumed their last grain of paddy or kurakkan by eating the berries, leaves, and roots of wild plants. The Horaborawęwa in this District was restored in 1869, but there has been no increase of population*. It is far from the purpose of the present writer to hint that these works are likely to prove failures. In process of time people will settle in sufficient numbers about them, but it may be a long time before this happens, and the settlers are likely to spring from more crowded neighbourhoods, where the people are more energetic and speculative than the primitive and simple-minded inhabitants of the Uva plains. If we are to help such scattered communities at all, and it is found impossible to drive them to the water, we must plainly take the water to them. It is not the necessity for immediate outlay, the trouble of clearing and laying out the ground, and the time that would have to elapse before any return could be got for the labour expended, that alone deter the Kandyan from moving: he is held to his birthplace by an attachment that scarcely any allurement can overcome.

It appears, therefore, that the way to relieve the people of the tank Districts of Uva is to select, if possible, points upon the river from which channels can be most economically cut to the tanks themselves, and to help and direct the people in the repair of their tanks, which may be supplied directly from the rivers, or indirectly through the medium of store tanks, as economy or the nature of the ground may suggest. The water may be drawn from the river to the usual way by an anicut, or lifted to the proper level by floating water-mills working a force pump. As for the improvement of the village tanks themselves, there is no reason to think that a very much more economical system might be adopted than what has prevailed hitherto. The simplest village sluice built by Government up to the present has not cost less than Rs. 1,000. There is no need for such elaborate stonework. By using earthenware pipes, carried well into the basin of the tank so as to avoid scour at the earthwork, very little masonry will be necessary.

As regards irrigation work in general, there is reason to believe that a less expensive system might be adopted. Instead of building costly stone anicuts across the river, the native plan might be so far improved upon as to ensure quite sufficient permanency. The usual native dam is thus constructed :—A row of piles fixed in holes or crevices in the rocks and leaning outward against forked supports, is set in the bed of the river. Against this framework crossbars are tied with the stems of jungle-creepers sufficiently close together to support mats of coarse patana grass. In a short time the sand silts up against this structure, and a tolerably water-tight dam is formed, sufficiently strong to endure through an ordinary flood. Grass mats last through a whole season, and wooden piles have been known to last for over 20 years. The suggestion now made is that this plan should be improved to the utmost. For this purpose it would only be necessary to provide piles and supports of the most durable timber, and to fix them into holes bored in the rock at the proper angles and at proper distances. It is not advisable to do too much for the Kandyan villager; he has always been accustomed to join his efforts with those of his fellow-cultivators in securing a common means of irrigation for the village fields. If he be relieved of too much responsibility, he will perhaps neglect the little that remains for him to do. In village irrigation works, of whatever character, the

* There has been a sensible increase since the above remarks were written.

principle which it is desirable should be acted upon is to conform the method of execution as much as possible to native practice. Perfect the native plan. Show the villagers how to use to greatest advantage resources within their reach; use kitul spouts and earth pipes of native manufacture, teach the cultivators to blast and to execute masonry work. With this in view, the provision of the new Road Ordinance may be turned to great account, and prison discipline might be directed to the same end.

VIII.—NATIVE COURTS.

The work accomplished during the year by the village tribunal of Udukinda was satisfactory. The usual statement is subjoined. The smallness of the number of appeals indicates the satisfaction which these courts are giving :—

		1886.	1887.
Pending on January 1	Civil ...	13	7
	Criminal ...	13	7
Instituted during the year	Civil ...	356	344
	Criminal ...	384	392
Amicably settled under section 23 ...	Civil ...	67	55
	Criminal ...	132	158
Decisions :—			
Breach of village communities rules ...	... ...	78	31
Civil	Money ...	289	280
	Land ...	6	8
Criminal	Assault ...	118	144
	Theft ...	18	12
	Malicious injury ...	7	7
	Cattle-trespass ...	19	24
	Maintenance ...	18	16
Appeals to the Government Agent ...	Affirmed ...	1	4
	Set aside ...	1	1
Appeals from Government Agent to the Governor in Executive Council ...	... ...	—	—
Pending on December 31	Civil ...	7	8
	Criminal ...	7	7

IX.—MATRIMONIAL COURTS.

The following is the usual statement of the work done in these courts, of which the Government Agent, in his capacity of Provincial Registrar, is the Judge.

Considering the facility which the law affords for dissolving the marriage tie, the number of divorces is surprisingly small. The entire number of divorces decreed during the last five years is thirty-seven. The applications for divorce are usually upon the ground of incompatibility of temper.

Statement of Divorces registered in the Province of Uva during 1885, 1886, and 1887.

	1885.	1886.	1887.
Pending on December 31 ...	7	15	14
Instituted during the year ...	19	20	20
Divorce allowed	4	12	14
Amicably settled	2	4	—
Struck off	2	2	1
Divorce rejected	3	3	1
Pending on December 31 ...	15	14	18*

X.—THE PRISON.

The daily average of prisoners confined in the Badulla jail during the last four years was—

	Convicted of Crime.	Committed under Road Ordinance.	Unconvicted.	Average of all Classes.
1884 ...	45·68 ...	8·59 ...	19·43 ...	73·70
1885 ...	65·10½ ...	2·38½ ...	14·62 ...	82·11
1886 ...	74·85 ...	0·53 ...	14·02 ...	89·40
1887 ...	76·53 ...	0·35 ...	19·10 ...	95·98

The expenditure upon the establishment was Rs. 12,377·66.

Four escapes were effected. In one case the prisoner helped himself over the jail wall with a rafter taken from the roof of the temporary shed in which, for want of room elsewhere, he was confined, under cover of a storm of wind and rain. The others escaped from working parties. All who escaped were eventually recaptured.

Three prisoners suffered capital punishment during the year.

The health of the prison was generally good, only one death from sickness having occurred.

The committals under the Road Ordinance (namely, where the person bound to work six days refused either to work or to commute) for four years are thus compared, and speak very favourably for the effect and for the working of the new Road Ordinance, this being the third year of its operation :—

1884	...	981	1886	...	198
1885	...	382	1887	...	28

Of the committals of 1886, forty-one were under the old Ordinance.

A greater number of prisoners than ever were employed at skilled labour, particularly carpentry, during the year, and many ordinary villagers must have benefited from the training they received. More remunerative work, especially in the shape of furniture, was turned out.

With prison labour considerable help was given to the Local Board in making new roads, planting and fencing trees, and in building culverts and drains in the town.

The Experimental Gardens, started in 1885, also received great assistance from the prison. With similar assistance the new cemetery grounds were cleared of jungle and neatly laid out.

* Some of these cases have been postponed in order to allow parties time to settle their matrimonial differences.

XI.—THE YEAR'S WORK; GENERAL REMARKS AND SUGGESTIONS ADMINISTRATIVE.

The Collection of the Revenue.

The same punctuality and completeness in the collection of the revenue, which has characterised this kachchéri since 1884, marked its operations in the year under consideration.

The paddy tax was fully collected well within the year with very little trouble. The only items which stood out at the end of the year were of assessment tax, payment of which could not be forced until after the expiration of the fourth quarter from a defect in the Ordinance.

The people have now got thoroughly into the habit of paying their paddy tax within the year. Executionary measures were only necessary in a very few instances, usually where the field was one that had been sold for arrears in a previous year, and which had proved valueless to the purchaser because of irrigational difficulties. There are cases of this sort in which the field has changed hands as a matter of course every year for several years back.

Indeed, for the last three years there has been singularly little need for the adoption of measures of distraint. Scarcely a case occurred in which a field of any value fell to the hammer, and certainly no instance in which the taxpayer was driven to part with his only field.

The number of instances in which the Crown bought in fields for default of tax due to itself was, in 1885 and 1866 none, and in 1887 one.

The Crown only buys, of course, where there are no bidders. The Siṇhalese villager will not allow his field to be sold for tax, except under very pressing circumstances. The work of the Grain Commissioner revealed instances in which men had paid tax for ten years without once reaping a crop. Cases in which the owner had persevered steadily in paying quite double the tax he had paid for the same field in the previous commutation were not infrequent.

The purchasers at default sales were more generally low-country men and Moormen, because these people are the only people in rural localities who have, as a rule, the command of money: but in almost every case the purchase is a mere temporary investment. The field is usually sold again at a profit. In this way the greater number of fields that have ever been sold are by degrees finding their way back to the old owners or to their families. In his memorandum upon the settlement of the grain tax of Mędapaláta, the Grain Commissioner makes the following remark:—"It was satisfactory to me to have proof in the progress of the settlement of this kóralé, that nearly all the fields purchased at sales for default of payment of paddy tax by low-country men and Moormen had passed into the hands of Kandyans, in most cases members of the families of the original owners."

Education.

Education has been for years much neglected in Uva generally, but more especially in the rural parts thereof, too much being left to pansala schools, of which there has always been a great number, affording, however, little more than the mere pretence of educating the children of the neighbourhood.

Something not inconsiderable towards wiping out this reproach has been effected in the two years since Uva became a Province. The following are the schools now in operation, several of which were started in the year under consideration:—

Vernacular Schools supported by Government.—Siṇhalese schools at Wilson's Bungalow, Passara, Lunugalla, Soranátoṭa, Kumbalwela, and Kalupahána.

Preliminaries were in operation at the close of the year for the establishment of a school of the same sort at Killinbunna in Kóngala-Bintęnna.

Estate Schools.—Tamil schools at Uḍuvera, Będdégama, and Tennacombe, all in the planting district of Badulla proper.

Schools under the Church of England.—English high school for boys in Badulla town, attendance 37; vernacular mixed school (Siṇhalese and Tamil), also in Badulla, attendance 29; village vernacular (Siṇhalese) school at Będdégama, attendance 43; and village vernacular (Siṇhalese) school at Koṭagoḍa, attendance 42. The last-named school is affecting an excellent influence in the village. The girls outnumber the boys, which is a remarkable fact in Uva.

The clergyman in charge reports that the year under review shows a marked increase in Government grant earned over 1886, the following being a comparative statement thereof:—

	1886. Rs. c.	1887. Rs. c.
St. Mark's High school	133 0	234 0
Badulla Vernacular school	95 0	156 50
Będdégama school	67 0	138 0
Koṭagoḍa school	21 0	120 50
Total ...	315 0	649 0

showing an increase of over 100 per cent.

The Wesleyans under the Rev. S. Langdon have been pushing education with much energy. They have now the following schools at work:—Girls' Anglo-vernacular school at Badulla, mixed vernacular schools at Bandárawela, Balagalla, Haputalégama, Liyangahawela, Haldummulla, Horagoné, and Malpota: affording education to 316 boys and 77 girls in the aggregate.

It is satisfactory to note that the attendance at all the schools in operation in Uva is steadily improving.

Mr. Langdon deserves the utmost credit for his scheme for an industrial school not far from Haputalé, which offers special advantages for children of mixed parentage. Government has come forward liberally to support the scheme, having granted 200 acres of land upon a merely nominal rental for the purpose, and having given Rs. 3,027 towards the erection of buildings. The building will accommodate about seventy children, but it will be so constructed as to be easily extended.

Mr. Langdon may be allowed to describe the objects of the scheme in the words of his own prospectus:—

Objects.

1.—To provide poor and destitute children in the Province of Uva with the means of obtaining an honest livelihood.

2.—To give an opportunity for elementary education and industrial training to children of any class on payment of fees covering expense of boarding and instruction.

3.—To introduce such industries as shall be of the greatest benefit to the Province.

4.—To give the children such a training as shall tend to make them, under God's blessing, good, honest, and industrious men and women.

Proposed Training.

1.—The institution will be worked in two parts, namely, Elementary and Industrial.

2.—Boys and girls above five years of age and under nine will be received into the Elementary Department and be educated suitably to their ages. The children in this department will be under the direct care of the Manager's wife and separated from the boys in the Industrial Establishment

3.—At the age of nine it is proposed to send the girls to the Girls' Industrial School in Kandy, under the same management, and to put the boys into the Industrial Department of the Uva Institution.

4.—The Industrial training of the girls in Kandy consists in mat-weaving, stocking knitting, plain dress-making, and plain cooking. Next year it is intended to add hospital nursing. They do all the housework and make their own clothes.

5.—The boys will receive such industrial training as a committee of gentlemen of large local experience may decide on as most necessary and likely to be most remunerative to the children themselves.

6.—In addition to the industries in each establishment, both boys and girls will be educated according to the requirement of the Public Instruction Code. Each department will be open to investigation at any time from those who are interested, and the results of a yearly examination provided by the Government will, we trust, be a good guarantee of efficiency.

We propose to carry out in the Uva Establishment the system which has worked so well with the Girls' Industrial School in Kandy, where we give ample food, but of the plainest description. We give no luxuries; food and furniture being such as is common to the ordinary respectable village home. No caste preferences of any kind are allowed. The education will be religious throughout, without compulsion, and Christian children will have no preferences shown them.

It is proposed at present to devote attention, as far as industrial learning is concerned, to agriculture, including vegetable-gardening, especially. Besides rice and other ordinary native products, wheat, oats, and other foreign grains will be tried, and probably tea will be grown and cured. Arrangements will be made for training a few lads as carpenters. To this should be added masonry.

As far as Government schools are concerned, the difficulty has hitherto been to get parents to send their children to them, but more especially to keep the school building in repair. The latter was the chief obstacle no doubt upon the entire question. Parents are expected to build and keep the school in repair by contributions in labour or in money, being punishable in default by the native tribunal. Parents are also liable to similar punishment for not sending their children to school. The system is, it is to be feared, to the prejudice of education. To force parents to build a school-house with the knowledge that they will be fined if they do not afterwards send their children there, is not unlike making a boy cut a switch for his own castigation. It would be much more satisfactory, and to the interest of education, if Government would put up the school building itself.

A great cause of the unwillingness of headmen to interest themselves in schools provided by Government, and of parents to send their children to them, has hitherto lain in the social inferiority of the schoolmaster. Wherever this impediment has been removed in Uva the result has been a marked increase in the attendance. The most successful plan has been to appoint men of local influence and make them responsible for the success of the school. Low-country teachers of the lower grades of native society are apt, when brought into contact with headmen in out-of-the-way places, to give offence by affecting equality with them, which is certain to prove injurious to the interests of the school.

Mr. Green's plan for raising the standard of education in pansala schools, where the education is of the most meagre and parrot-like description, is deserving of close attention. It may be that the Ordinance which Government is understood to be preparing in reference to Buddhist Temporalities may embody some scheme for enforcing upon temple estates a fair responsibility as to monastic teaching.

Working of the Road Ordinance.

The new Road Ordinance has worked in this the third year of its operation with increased success. Every care was taken to give effect to it without oppression. The following figures for four years show a growing tendency of a decided degree to pay instead of to work, which is highly satisfactory, indicating as it does that the circumstances of the people are improving, and that they now realise that the compulsory provisions of the Ordinance can be given effect to with promptitude and certainty:—

	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.
Worked without compulsion	4,110	4,581	3,285	2,884
Paid at single rates ...	10,585	14,666	16,854	18,202
Paid at double rates ...	789	159	127	285
Total number of persons reached without penal measures being resorted to ...	15,484	19,406	20,266	21,371

The ultimate penalty the Ordinance provides, imprisonment upon failure either to work or to pay, had not to be resorted to in half so many instances as in 1886. The actual number of commitments was 59 in 1887 against 152 in 1886.

All the available labour was worked within the year, and every person concerned dealt with under the Ordinance, except something under 2 per cent.—cases in which the execution of warrants was successfully evaded.

By calling out directly from the kachchéri, the additional labour in a great many cases and the punishment labour always, and working it only in such situations as to admit of frequent supervision by European officers, a safeguard against abuses of commonest occurrence and of greatest gravity was established. There were very few complaints of oppression by headmen or overseers.

Measures for encouraging settlements about Irrigation Works.

The new conditions for the easy purchase of paddy lands under irrigation works in remote quarters, where there is little or no population, and where people are disinclined to settle, except under special inducement, proved, so far, highly successful. Sales of land under Horaborawewa and Sudupanawela, which had been repeatedly tried to no purpose previously, gave the following

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results. There would have been a greater number of sales had it not been that the boundaries of lots surveyed had become undistinguishable. This was the reason why no purchases were made under Kuḍáwęwa. A large number of persons, however, attended the sale, expressing themselves willing to buy if they could only identify the lots upon the ground.

Sales in November, 1887.

	No. of Lots sold.	Acreage. A.	R.	P.
Horaborawęwa	99 ...	231	1	32
Sudupanáwela	16 ...	34	3	4

But why insist upon *selling* the land under the large works throughout the Island which have as yet failed to attract a population? Leases upon easy terms would be more readily taken up, and, in the end, the arrangement would be more profitable to Government. In certain cases the experiment might be tried of clearing the jungle and preparing the land for paddy by prison labour, and even building huts and inviting people to occupy them and cultivate the ground so opened. Government might even go so far as to allow the land free of rent or taxes until cultivation was regularly established. After that there would be little trouble in getting tenants or purchasers for more land.

One great advantage of the leasing system would be that Government would have the means at its disposal of getting rid of a tenant who was too lazy to cultivate the ground, and putting a more active man in his place. The following letters so aptly illustrate the difficulties in point, that no apology need be offered for extracting them from last year's report:—

The GOVERNMENT AGENT, Province of Uva, to the Hon. the COLONIAL SECRETARY.

No. A/19. Badulla Kachchéri, June 19, 1886.

SIR,—LANDS under Sudupanáwela anicut and ęla (constructed by Government in 1881 and 1882) having been put up for sale several times without effect, and it being apparent that there is no disposition on the part of the people of the surrounding kóralés to settle there unless some special inducement be held out to them, I have the honour to make the following proposal, which I am confident would invite a settlement and lead to the cultivation of a large area of land now lying waste, and likely to remain so for many years to come; and I would further urge that the same system be extended to lands under Horaborawęwa, Kuḍáwęwa, and other irrigation works in this Province, where there are available lands, but not sufficient population to cultivate them and no promise of new settlers.

2. In the present depressed condition of the country, all the ready money a peasant can earn is only sufficient to meet the payment of his taxes. He can properly afford no outlay in *cash* whatever, and until labour is procurable in the neighbourhood of an irrigation work capitalists will not venture to purchase land under it.

3. The payment of the first instalment of the purchase amount, the expense of transporting their families, and of building new homes, of clearing the land of jungle, of preparing it for irrigation, and ploughing it, the purchase and transport of seed paddy, and the waiting a year or more before any return comes in,—these are all appalling considerations to men who can only raise ready money upon mortgages contracted at ruinous interest, and who are constitutionally attached to their ancestral huts and wedded to the daily habits and prejudicies of their fathers by the very strongest ties.

4. It has been felt that Sir Henry Ward's minute does not afford sufficient encouragement. The people do not appreciate so much exemption from tithe for a period—because, once they have raised a crop, the delivery of a share of it is convenient and easy enough—as they would a proportionate lightening of their first outlay and labour.

5. My proposal is simply that lands circumstanced as I have described should be given out on license for five years, free of tax and water-rate, and that after the expiration of that period they should be offered to the occupants at Rs. 10 an acre and fees, payable in four yearly instalments, subject to tithe at one-tenth and water-rate in kind for the future.

6. Should occupants decline to accept these terms, the land should be sold under Sir Henry Ward's minute, having doubtless by that time been brought into such condition as to be sure to attract purchasers, particularly as there would be a settlement of cultivators in the neighbourhood.

7. The Raṭémahatmayá of Wellawáya furnishes me with the names of seventy-five persons who would be willing to take lands at Sudupanáwela upon the terms I have suggested, provided permits be issued within a month.

8. I would earnestly beg that the plan be allowed a trial, and that the concession be made without delay.

I am, &c.

The GOVERNMENT AGENT, Province of Uva, to the Hon. the COLONIAL SECRETARY.

No. 264. Badulla Kachchéri, September 15, 1886.

SIR,—ALTHOUGH I am unable as yet to answer the first paragraph of your letter No. 192, of the 12th ultimo, not having received Bintęnna Raṭémahatmayá's report, I think it well to delay no longer in answering the other questions contained in your letter; and I have therefore the honour to report as follows:—

2. I am asked how I propose to avoid the one great danger of all arrangements whereby the purchase of land is made easy,—the abandonment of the land after the timber has been felled and sold off.

To this I reply: in the case of Sudupanáwela there is no timber upon the irrigable land which could be made of any profit to a person licensed in terms of my plan. Once the land is cleared, the great obstacle in the way of bringing it under cultivation would be surmounted, and this is, in fact, the chief obstacle by which the purchaser is now deterred.

3. At Horaborawęwa there is a large area circumstanced just as the land under Sudupanáwela is. As for the rest, and as regards Kuḍáwęwa, though there may be some good timber in question, still it is so inaccessible, because of the difficulty of transporting it, that it is extremely improbable that any one would take out a license to cultivate simply with the view to making a profit out of the sale of the timber.

4. But even in places where the timber could be carried away and sold at a profit, I see no reason why conditions in the license should not be so devised as to prevent this.

5. The licensee should be allowed to appropriate no timber without special leave. To this end it would only be necessary to introduce the condition that no timber should be removed from the allotment, except under standing forest rules touching timber in transit; and no timber should be *fashioned* or *sawn* upon the allotment, or within a certain radius of it, except under and in strict accordance with the terms of a permit to be issued by the Forester.

6. The timber upon an allotment might be felled, and the allotment abandoned; but there is certainly no reason why it should be carried away and sold with impunity.

7. Should any license-holder under the easy purchase system fell the land and then abandon it, the felling would only make the next comer's work more easy.

8. But, in point of fact, I anticipate no such abandonment of the enterprise when some such conditions as I have indicated are insisted upon, and where reasonable discretion is exercised in the issue of purchasing leases, it being always remembered that improper advantage is more likely to be taken of the lease by persons possessed of some capital, than by the ordinary cultivator, whose moneyless circumstances my plan is chiefly designed to meet.

I am, &c.

The suggestions met with favourable consideration, and the following regulations were duly authorised :—

Special Rules for Sale of Lands under Sudupandáwewa, Horaborawewa, and Kudáwewa.

1. Any purchaser of land watered by this tank, not exceeding five acres in extent, may, on application to the Government Agent of the Province of Uva, and on receiving from him a certificate that it is in his case inexpedient to enforce payment of the purchase money of such land in cash, acquire such land on the following conditions.

2. For such period as the Government Agent shall declare (taking into consideration the nature of the land purchased, the extent to which it is covered with forest, and the age of such forest) to be reasonably sufficient for clearing and asweddumising, the purchaser shall hold the land free of all tax, and shall be at liberty to bring it under cultivation.

3. All timber standing on the land shall be deemed the property of the Crown, and shall not be held to have been sold with the land. The Government Agent shall make such arrangements as may be considered most convenient, either for causing it to be felled and removed by the Forester, or for permitting the purchaser of the land fo fell and stack it for sale on account of the Crown (in which case such purchaser shall be entitled to payment for so doing).

4. At the expiration of the period allowed for asweddumising the land, the Government Agent shall inspect the land, or cause it to be inspected.

5. Should the purchaser have failed to bring it into a fit state for cultivation with paddy within such period, to shall forfeit all right to further occupation thereof, and also forfeit a sum equal to Rs. 10 for every acre occupied by him.

6. Should the Government Agent, on the other hand, be satisfied that the land is then ready for paddy cultivation, he shall issue to the purchaser a permit to cultivate such land for one year, on payment of one-fourteenth of the crop to the Crown, and the land shall thereafter be liable to payment of water-rate.

7. After one year of such cultivation the land shall be liable to a tax of one-tenth of its produce, in addition to the ordinary tax of one-tenth (or one-fifth in all), to be levied until such time as the additional tax shall have amounted to the sum originally offered for the land, when the purchaser shall, on payment of survey and other fees, receive a Crown grant thereof.

8. Should the occupant not commence cultivation at the proper time, or altogether fail to cultivate the land in any year in which cultivation is possible, he shall be liable to forfeit the sum of Rs. 5 ; and the Government Agent shall be at liberty to employ goiyas to cultivate for the Crown. Should the occupant's failure to cultivate extend over two successive years, he shall entirely forfeit all right to the land.

Forestry.

Something more was done in Forestry than in previous years, but still Government was unable to grant funds sufficient for more than mere conservation in a general way. Nothing could be effected towards forming depôts of timber, a measure so much to be desired ; but the watchfulness of the Forester greatly checked thefts of Crown timber and deterred persons from purchasing from so-called private lands. The consequence was that it became more the fashion to apply to Government for permits to fell, and the sales of Crown timber, though disproportionately small, considering the size of the Province and its wealth in forest lands, rose considerably over what previous years had shown. Some progress having been made towards forest reform in the Island generally, it became possible to secure funds for some systematic work in Uva during 1888, and suggestions often repeated in these reports will, to some extent, see realisation very shortly.

Funds have been secured for establishing and stocking with a year's supply two depôts in 1888, one at Badulla and the other at Haputalé, and for the appointment of a few permanent forest guards. The formation of nurseries at those places has also been provided for, and a commencement will be made in planting up patana land and planting trees along the high roads.

Much of the Government Agent's time was occupied during several months of the year in grain tax settlement consequent upon the expiry of the commutation agreement of 1878. The Korálés of Yaṭipaláta, Meḍapaláta, Uḍapaláta, and Dambawinna were thus settled. The work was continued by Mr. Grain Commissioner Brodhurst, who was appointed towards the close of the year for the special duty.

Elephants.

It is quite time that the shooting of these useful and valuable animals for sport should be interdicted altogether in Ceylon, as well as elephant-catching as now practised by traders from India, in the course of which much cruelty and unnecessary destruction of elephant life unquestionably occurs, the practice being too often to kill full-grown elephants to facilitate the capture of the young ones. Government should take into its hands the protection of these herds and the entire control and profits of the trade. Elephant-catching should be made a distinct business of the Government as in India, the services of the Foresters, who are usually sportsmen and therefore well-fitted for the duty, being availed of. In this way no inconsiderable increase to the revenue might be secured, while much more use than hitherto might be made of these creatures in public works and transport generally. In forestry they might be turned to great account. There is profitable work for a hundred of them in dragging timber to land and water thoroughfares from forests now entirely unrequisitioned in regions where no other means of transport is available. Dangerous elephants should of course be shot, but this should be done under regulations sufficient to ensure that the creature destroyed was in every instance a rogue.

Snakes.

The Government offers a reward for killing bears and leopards : the destruction of venemous snakes of all kinds should receive like encouragement.

The Mail Coach.

Among progressive movements of the year should be mentioned the opening of a coach line between Badulla and the railway station at Nánu-oya, forty miles off, which has proved an immense boon to the public, more however as a means of travel than of rapid transit of the mails.

A postal line direct from Badulla to Haputalé *viá* Bandárawela was opened during the year.

XII.—LEGISLATION PROPOSED.

Under this head, as the writer has no fresh suggestions to offer, it will be unnecessary to vary the wording of last report:—

The Buddhist Temporalities Ordinance is understood to be under the consideration of Government. One object it should certainly aim at is to require that the temple revenues should provide for the improvement and maintenance of pansala schools.

A more ready means is much needed for recovering small sums due upon Crown lands, as, for instance, fields, gardens, and chenas leased out by the year. The only course at present available is by civil action, a little facilitated perhaps by Ordinance 14 of 1843, which enables the revenue officer to seize property pending institution of civil proceedings. Such a course is expensive, slow and inconvenient to a degree, and altogether out of proportion to the amount sought to be recovered. The proceedings need be no less summary than in distraint for non-payment of assessment tax.

A law is needed to provide that within a limited period from the death of the owner of landed property (being a Kandyan), in case of an adoption the adopted child should be declared.

Assessment Tax.—Compulsory measures cannot be put into effect for the recovery of the last quarter's tax until after the year is fully expired; thus a year's tax can never be wholly collected within the year. The quarter's tax should be declared to be due on the first day of the first month of the quarter, and to be recoverable by distraint if not paid by the first day of the second month.

Village Communities Ordinance.—The powers of the committee (when there is no paid president) might be extended to trial of small statutable offences, such as vagrancy, desertion of wife, theft, cattle-trespass, and breaches of the game laws.

XIII.—PUBLIC EVENTS.

The great public event of the year—and, indeed, the only one which deserves mention—was the celebration throughout the Province of the jubilee of our gracious Sovereign, which is perhaps sufficiently described for the purposes of a plain official record, such as this, in the words of the letter following:—

The GOVERNMENT AGENT, Uva, to the Hon. the COLONIAL SECRETARY.

IN reference to your circular letter No. 62 of June 15 last, I have the honour to report as follows.

Notwithstanding the lateness of the arrival of copies of the "Record," Her Majesty's jubilee was celebrated throughout the length and breadth of this Province on June 28.

Arrangements were so planned that no villager had to travel more than five miles from his home in order to participate in the rejoicings, which were everywhere of a thoroughly loyal and unusually enthusiastic nature.

The reading of the "Record" by the chief headmen within each particular circuit was, of course, the central event of the day's proceedings; and where these circuits were large because of the scattered condition of the population, the headmen read the record at more than one point, marching from village to village in procession (and being met by other processions), with the usual accompaniment of flags, musicians, dancers, &c. The place of rendezvous was often the pansala or viháré, as being the most central and commanding position, and here, after the headman had read the "Record," the priest usually addressed the gathering, referring to Her Majesty's long and beneficent reign, and the goodness of her private life, in terms of praise and unmistakable loyalty.

Everywhere there were distributions of alms to the poor. The planting of memorial trees is reported from several kóralés—a commemorative act which naturally addressed itself with peculiar attractiveness to people who hold the bó-tree in veneration.

In villages where there were schools the children were fêted.

In such small towns as Haldummulla, Koslanda, and Welimada, the celebration was naturally on a more expensive and more ambitious scale than in the villages, the petty traders contributing with praiseworthy liberality both in money and in their own personal exertions.

In Badulla the day began with the firing of a Royal Salute; next there was a review of the Volunteers; then thanksgiving services at the several places of worship, Christian and non-Christian. At 11 there was a presentation of flags to school children and a miniature durbar of the children of chiefs. At 12 there was a feeding of the poor. At 2 the Government Agent, standing with other officials of the station under a pavilion erected at the top of a flight of steps leading from the town to the summit of the picturesque hill fort upon which the kachchéri and courthouse stand, read the "Record" to a crowd of several thousands of natives, and announced, in the name of Her Majesty, that fields still in the hands of the Crown, which had been taken over for arrears of grain tax, were to be restored to the original owners.

After congratulatory addresses had been presented for transmission to Her Majesty by representatives of different sections of the community, a procession, with the usual picturesque features peculiar to such Oriental displays, was formed of the different nationalities of which Badulla affords examples—high- and low-land Sinhalese, Tamils, Moors, Malays, and Afghans—in which a number of Englishmen, including the officials of the station, mounted on horseback, joined. This procession, strikingly picturesque in variety of composition and colour, traversed the main streets of the town, which were richly decorated with flags and triumphal arches.

At 4 P.M. there was a children's fête. Native sports arranged for grown-up people were not held until the following day, owing to the occurrence of heavy rain late in the afternoon.

At 9 o'clock at night the Government Agent planted a memorial tree (a nuga) by torchlight, accompanied to the site selected by a brilliant native procession.

Later on there was an unusally fine exhibition of fireworks, the town was brightly illuminated, and a bonfire lighted upon the top of Namanakula, a mountain which rises some 4,000 ft. above the station.

Thus ended the day's proceedings. On following days were held native sports which the rain had unfortunately interrupted; and a very striking night's performance of Kandyan dancers in the open air, upon a stage at the bottom of the flight of steps before alluded to, overlooked by several thousands of people who sat under a marquee, or on the grass slopes on either side.

It gives me immense pleasure to record that the celebration throughout Uva generally was of such a striking nature, that it is not likely ever to be forgotten by the people. It is probable that no such brilliant display ever occurred here before, and it is quite certain that no more united and enthusiastic manifestation of loyalty could have been desired.

Great praise is due to the exertions of all persons concerned in the organisation of the display, and the orderly manner in which the numerous crowds of people conducted themselves, usually under no sort of police constraint, without a single instance having occurred of a quarrel, theft, or an accident, cannot fail to excite admiration.

ÆLIAN ARMSTRONG KING,
Government Agent.

Extracts from Diary.

January 8.—With the District Engineer to inspect Uḍala-ęla—a dam in which, according to my recommendation (there are now several successful examples in the Province), only a row of piles have been provided as the substantial framework upon which the cultivators are to work in constructing their customary dams. The work is tolerably satisfactory—only the cost looks large. The chief expense has been in forming an artificial foundation for the piles, as the bed of the river is composed of nothing but sand. Walk back to Węlimaḍa along the ęla. Field operations in full vigour. After breakfast dispose of tappal, and work with headmen and people as yesterday until 6. Then ride to Pálugama, five miles.

January 9.—Before breakfast ride to Daṇgamuwa, where I meet the Raṭémahatmayá, Dehigama, and one Daṇgamuwa Raṭémahatmayá. Inspected old Baḍala-ęla (irrigates twenty-five amunams). A steep rock interrupts the channel, and is passed by means of a kitul spout, which, besides being impermanent, fails to carry a sufficiency of water. The best plan will be to blast a channel through this rock. There are two other rocks (small, however) which impede the channel and should be blasted out. I tell the Raṭémahatmayá to get a mason to estimate the cost of the work. If terms are reasonable I shall recommend the works being undertaken under the village vote for the present year. Thence to the Mana-ęla anicut—a pile dam just from the hands of the Public Works Department upon the principle above described. The people are preparing to put up their usual screen of boughs and mana grass. The completion report will be passed, but the Public Works Department must be made to slope the piles outwards, as I have before contended should be done. The villagers will not construct their dams perpendicularly, and will therefore only use the piles to rest their inclined posts against, upon which they finally fasten their screen. The objection is quite scientific: a rush comes in the river, the flood would jump over a dam that was sloped, which, if made perpendicular, it would burst through, striking it normally instead of tangentially. Water at rest, water in uniform motion, and water rushing down with a burst, are very different things. Everybody knows that if water has once got above the level of a dam without injuring it, the motion become at once confined to the water near the surface. Then it does not much matter whether the barrier is vertical or sloping outwards—indeed, the vertical position is better; but what we have to consider is the injury that may be done while the water is rising, or when it comes down with such sudden force, as to put in violent motion every cubic foot of its volume at the face of the dam. Return to Wilson's Bungalow to breakfast after a ride of sixteen miles. Dispose of tappal in the afternoon.

January 12.—Dispose of tappal from 7 to 10, then ride to Mirahawatta, ten miles, where breakfast and make some inquiries. The weather had suddenly changed from fine to wet and I am detained at Mirahawatta a couple of hours by a heavy shower. Leave at 5 and ride to Baṇḍárawęla, six miles. Appreciate the necessity for an ambalam at the Matetilla-ęla ford, where people have to wait sometimes for hours until the water goes down sufficiently to permit of their crossing. [Note: to bring the matter before the next meeting of Provincial Road Committee.] This is the site of the much wanted bridge referred to by the planters of Haputalé on the occasion of the Governor's visit. Arrive at Baṇḍárawęla a little after darkness sets in. Glad of a fire after dinner.

January, 28.—Papers all the morning. After breakfast review headmen and renew, &c., their acts. Heard some complaints. Thus engaged until 5, when I started for Męddagama. Arrived there (twelve miles) in two hours. Road requires attention at stream crossings.

January 29.—It is wonderfully cold here just now at night and in the early mornings (elevation 800 ft.). The weather is altogether very unusual for this time of the year: we ought to be having rain. Engaged all the morning upon kachchéri papers. The tappal arrives at 9, which I at once proceed to dispose of. Get my despatches sent off at once; then work with headmen and people of Męḍagam pattu. Hear several hundreds of applications for exemption from road tax. On all occasions of this sort the number of cases of broken limbs (the result of falls from kitul trees) is remarkable. All are cases of want of proper surgical treatment. Administer to a large audience my customary dissertation on the Grain Ordinance. Review headmen and renew acts. Hear complaints. Thus engaged until dark. Write diary, &c., until dinner is ready.

January 30.—Papers all the morning and until 2, when I despatched tappal. Renew acts of some headmen remaining from yesterday. Hear a few more applications and exemptions. March to Dambagalla (about twelve miles), arriving at Makulla at a little after dark.

January 31.—Walk over the fields of Makulla with the headmen and a crowd of villagers. The soil is sandy and poor. The irrigation is wholly dependent upon small tanks with bund scarcely higher than paddy field ridges, which fill only once every two or three years. Examine site for a tank which would supply a sufficiency of water for all fields (the Mahawęwa), and urge upon the people to build the bund, promising on behalf of Government to give them a sluice and to provide all skilled labour that may be required. The scheme had already engaged my attention, but the difficulty in the way of its accomplishment was that two persons had fields (in all five amunams) within the area to be submerged, and made objections. I meet these objections by offering paddy land belonging to the Crown under the tank's service in compensation. After breakfast dispose of tappal (just arrived) until 1 P.M., when I despatch it to Bibilé. Then work with the people (of whom a large crowd from all parts of the kóralé) and headmen. Hear a large number of applications for exemption from road tax. Deliver my usual lecture upon the Grain Tax Ordinance, and administer my usual warning about the payment of taxes. Review the headmen of Dambagalla and renew acts. Thus engaged until 6 P.M.

February 1.—March from Makulla to Kandaragama in Mahavęḍiraṭa, twelve miles. Meet the headmen and a large concourse of people of Mahavęḍiraṭa. Lecture them on the new forest rules, and warn them in particular against felling jungle in the course of chena clearing right up to the roads. Tell them that many a weary traveller will bless them for the observance of this rule.

After breakfast dispose of papers and get my packet ready for despatch. Work with headmen and people. Hear a number of applications for exemption. Expound the Grain Tax Ordinance and make inquiries with the view to estimating the local value of paddy—a rather difficult matter at first sight, because the inhabitants eat all the paddy they raise. Tappal arrives from Bibilé at dark, just as I finished my investigation, and I attack it at once. Thus engaged until dinner time.

February 2.—Kandauḍapaṇguwa. Early in the morning inspect the few fields which are in this miserable village—two or three tracts, each of which is not over three or four acres in extent. A small tank for each tract. People say that there is no site for one common tank capable of irrigating all the land. Drinking water very bad—no doubt the cause of a good deal of the disease (chiefly paraṇgi) which is nearly everywhere to be seen. Take evidence, after breakfast, touching the condition of the kóralé with a view to establishing a standard of taxation as my guide in grain tax settlement.

February 3.—Continue work of yesterday and settle the tax for the whole kóralé (there are only 160 fields in it).

February 4.—Back to Dambagalla in the morning—a long ride—over twelve miles. Take evidence of the condition of the kóralé. Grain tax work until dark. Dispose of tappal until dinner.

February 5.—Travel from Magandana to Nikawęṭiya, twenty-six or thirty miles, halting for breakfast at Badullawela.

February 6.—After breakfast dispose of tappal just arrived. Then work with headmen and people as usual: exemptions, renew acts, lecture on the Grain Tax Ordinance, and take evidence as to the circumstances of the kóralé—cultivated area, irrigation means, marketable produce and price thereof, crop fold, &c. (all noted in my grain tax settlement proceedings).

February 7.—Tappal does not arrive until after breakfast. Dispose of it. (I was out this morning until breakfast time inspecting fields of this village.) After despatching tappal to Bibilé I commence work with the headmen and people: usual proceedings. Take evidence as to the circumstances of the kóralé from a grain-tax-settlement point of view. Thus engaged till 5.30. Short walk. Write up diary, &c., until dinner.

February 8.—Finish work at Nilgala and travel to Bibilé, twelve or fourteen miles, visiting the vihara on the way, where I had some agreeable conversation with the resident priest, who is a nice-mannered and intelligent man.

February 9.—Bibilé. Spend the morning at papers. Despatch tappal. Do some work with the headmen and people. Ride to Ridimaliyadda. Encounter heavy rain (very unusual here at this time of the year), get drenched through, and experience some difficulty in crossing streams, which are much swoollen. Do not get under cover until 8 P.M.

February 10.—Inspect fields of Ridimaliyadda and take evidence of circumstances of village with a view to fixing standards of taxation. Walk to Mahagama, six miles, after breakfast. Visit fields of Mahagama and inquire into irrigation measures. There is an old tank, long breached (Kumburawęwa), which, if restored, would afford an ample supply to fields now precariously watered (about 100 amunams) and justify the asweddumisation of more lands. There are lands enough. The people are willing to execute the earthwork. Walk on to Bubulé, six miles, by rugged path. Encounter frequent showers. Meet two tappals at Bubulé, which I dispose of before dinner.

February 11.—Devote the morning to the disposal of miscellaneous papers, bringing my writing up to date. The sun comes out for a little, doing me the gracious service of drying my clothes and bedding. After breakfast work with headmen and people. Exemptions, renew acts, general complaints, lecture the people on the Grain Tax Ordinance, the new forest rules, the Road Tax Ordinance, the recently proclaimed rules touching the fruit of the aralu tree.

February 12.—Out for a stroll in the morning. After breakfast despatch tappal to Badulla. Business with people and headmen as usual. Take evidence as to the circumstances of the several kóralés of Bintęnna, and decide upon standard tax rate for those kóralés based upon crop-fold and market price of paddy.

February 13.—In the morning ride to Mędabędawęwa (tank). Administered a severe reprimand to the people (a lazy lot, I am sorry to say, spoiled by the easy practice of chenaïng) who have not made a satisfactory progress in cutting the ęla. I tell the Kórála (Bintęnna) that he must come and take up his residence in the village until the work is done. He promises to have it finished by April.

February 14.—Ride to the Lokgal-oya ford for breakfast. Early in the afternoon I continued the journey to Migahakiwula, turning aside at about half a mile from the river to walk along the Yápamépallewela-ela. This is a fine village work, costing the cultivators of fields, however, a great deal of trouble: first of all in damming the oya, and secondly in keeping the ęla in order. The difficulty in maintaining the ęla lies in the circumstance that for a considerable distance from the river it skirts a steep bank. The ęla dam is consequently very apt to be breached, especially in those places where the bund is supported with a wall of stones, no mortar being used. The presence of these stones in combination with the earthwork is fatal to it, because of the imperfect cohesion between earth and stone. A dam must be either of stone set in mortar or of earthwork alone.

Under this ęla there are thirty-two amunams of paddy land, all cultivated annually. They are considered good fields, but the people do not acknowledge to more than six or eight-fold as the usual crop. Were the work improved, twenty amunams at least of new land (the property of the Crown) could be brought into cultivation. I propose to get proper masonry walls built at seven very weak points in the ęla, of which three are where kanduras cross the ęla and are constantly a source of peril to its banks. Constructing the dam across the river is a troublesome piece of work every year (it is in three sections, the oya dividing into three branches at this point). Still the landowners will continue to put it up as heretofore, and will be quite satisfied if Government will effect those necessary improvements in the ęla bank which they are themselves quite unequal to. Arrived at Migahakiwula, I entertain some applications for exemption until too dark to work.

February 15.—Dispose of tappal in the morning. After breakfast work with headmen and people. Deliver my usual lecture on the Grain Tax Ordinance, Forest Rules, the Road Ordinance, &c. Hear applications for exemption under the Road Ordinance. In the evening ride to Taldena. Hear a few applications for exemption before dark. Engaged upon papers until dinner time.

February 16.—With the Raṭémahatmayá and other headmen I inspect the Taldena-ęla from where it crosses the high road at the 8th milepost to its further extremity. It is not long since the water was turned on from the anicut for the first time since last alterations were effected. I am therefore now for the first time able to form an idea of the quantity of water which the channel can carry. The supply appears to me to be altogether insufficient for the purpose in view—the irrigation of some 800 acres of new land (as yet unopened)—and utterly disproportionate to the headworks and the cost with which they were constructed. At a point on the channel, below which some 600 acres (out of the 800 above spoken of) are to be supplied, the measurements of volume and velocity were as follows:—Sectional area of water in channel, 25 ft. wide by 6 in. deep—a light leaf thrown on its surface ran only fifteen yards in one minute (this was at the 5¾ mile). Higher at the channel towards the dam the sectional area was 13 in. by 2 ft. 6 in., and the water was running at a velocity of forty yards in one minute.

The headmen and people thought that the water was only sufficient to irrigate twenty amunams. More, they thought, might be irrigated with the same quantity of water in a flat country, but not in these hills.

However, there is enough water to carry on with for a year or so, but eventually the supply will have to be very much increased.

The fault is of course in the original levels. The gradient is much too even throughout the whole length of the channel. Note should also be taken of an observation that I have made more than once before, that I do not think the waterway in the built parts of the channel or in the metal aqueducts is sufficient.

At the time of my inspection the ęla was carrying all the water it was capable of carrying, for in two or three places water was running over the channel bank. Back to Taldena for breakfast. After breakfast work with headmen and people. Deal with a very large number of applications for exemption. Lecture the people on the Grain Tax Ordinance, &c.; renew acts of headmen.

Engaged until 7.15 P.M. hearing evidence as to the circumstances of Wiyaluwa, Oyapaláta, and Soranátoṭa, with a view to fixing the price of paddy in those kóralés and fixing standards of crop-fold.

February 17.—Ride to Badulla; kachchéri after breakfast. Work as usual.

March 22.—Off early in the morning to inspect Mána-ęla anicut. The Public Works Department put in piles and built headworks last year. The people have now done their share of the contract very satisfactorily. They have boarded up the dam in a very substantial manner—not nailing the boards to the piles themselves, but to posts which rest against them. They might have been saved this trouble if the Public Works Department had not insisted upon setting the piles vertically into the bed of the river instead of sloping them outwards as is really the more scientific plan and the one the natives themselves always adopt. There is a regulating sluice close to the mouth of the channel.

The aperture is evidently not large enough, and while all the water that could possibly get through the opening was running down the ęla, the surface of the water was three or four inches below spill level. (I shall draw Provincial Engineer's attention to this.) Return to Ambagasdúwa to breakfast—a ride of about ten miles. After breakfast dispose of kachchéri despatches and other Government Agent's work proper, and work for the rest of the day upon the grain tax settlement of this kórálé. Thus engaged until 5.30.

April 16.—Walk from 6 to 6.30. Papers until breakfast. After breakfast grain tax work again. Steadily engaged from 11.30 to 6. I find that in that time the utmost I could do was to register 170 entries. In almost every instance some inquiry has to be made into circumstances of proprietorship, of divisions among heirs, of extent of field, of its irrigation disadvantages, of its infertility, and so on. It rains now every afternoon. There is a perfectly astonishing luxuriance of blossom upon coffee trees in native gardens. This is to be seen all over the Province wherever such gardens still remain. The people do not base much hope upon this blossom, for they doubt that the trees are vigorous enough to bear much fruit, but any way there can be no doubt that native coffee has been improving in the course of the last two years. I hear there is a capital blossom on estates in Haputalé.

May 4.—Ride to Diyawuntaláwa and inspect the work on the tank there with a view to dealing with completion report. Thence to Haputalé, where I meet the Rev. Mr. Langdon by appointment. We discuss the Industrial School scheme thoroughly and the proposed site, which I saw in the course of my ride. I am prepared to recommend that a site for a bungalow be granted at Rs. 10 an acre (the land being poor patana land), the ground for a

school site I would give at the same rate (patana). As regards procuring timber for workshop purposes, and for fencing and fuel, a license would be given under usual forest rules, no payment being required, but the conditions imposed that for every tree cut down the school shall plant and rear, until it can take care of itself, a tree of the description approved by the Government Agent or the Forester. I promised to send Mr. Langdon the plan, so that he may indicate the exact lots he wants. After breakfast ride to Haputalé resthouse. Thence in the evening to Batgoḍa, where I meet Mr. Mayow by appointment to discuss his application for patana land near Beauvais estate, which he wants for general cultivation and for grazing purposes.

May 9.—Inspect local works in the morning. Kachchéri as usual. Chief business, the sale of the arrack rent for the year from June 30, 1887, to June 30, 1888. A falling off in competition this year, which I did not expect seeing that the bidding in other parts of the Island has improved. I shall try another sale.

May 10.—Local works in the morning. Kachchéri until 3.30. Assemble the children of the town at the Local Board hall, and give them a lesson in singing "God Save the Queen." Nothing sectarian about the matter. Every one was invited. Even Buddhists came: I could not tell them to go, and indeed I don't see why I should. Ride to Eṭṭampiṭiya afterwards, twelve miles.

May 11.—Ride from Eṭṭampiṭiya to Fort MacDonald in the morning, ten miles. The headmen of Meḍapaláta meet me at their boundary. Inquire into present condition and prospects. The coffee in native gardens promises well: it is not suffering from green bug. The people say they had this pest last year. It is a consolation to think that it does *sometimes* at all events leave the coffee tree before it has killed it. Kachchéri papers for an hour or so. Then commence the grain settlement of the Meḍapaláta, first making the usual inquiries into the circumstances of the kóralé as regards water supply, quality of the soil, marketable produce, markets, prices, &c.

June 24 and 25.—Very busy: jubilee matters thrusting themselves in the way of everything else.

June 26.—Paint lions on shields for Jubilee pavilion.

June 27.—Very busy in kachchéri and everywhere else.

June 28.—Jubilee day at last: no hitch, no bad temper, no accident—satisfactory.

June 29.—Holiday. Writing and cleaning up.

July 23.—Papers in the morning. After breakfast I make inspections of land purchased by Mr. Gallway from Government, concerning which villagers have petitioned His Excellency, alleging that the sale included gardens, and jungle which covers water, upon which eight amunams of paddy land depend. As for the gardens, I find the land pointed out to be patana land, never disturbed until a short time after the sale, when villagers proceeded to plant young plantain trees here and there upon it. The jungle, much to my surprise—for I had inspected it before—did appear to contain a small (a very small) stream, but upon closer examination we found that the petitioners had actually cut a channel very recently, it was apparent (probably that day or the day before), from a stream in another valley altogether which supplied Mr. Gallway's bathroom, leading it into the jungle in question. In reality the jungle did not contain a drop of water. Drive and sleep at Nayabedda.

July 24.—Early in the morning I make a start for Weḷimaḍa: hot ride, a strong wind blowing. Distance about sixteen miles. I reach Weḷimaḍa at 12 and find Captain Hansard there. He has come to inquire about rumours (very much exaggerated) of the prevalence of crime in the neighbourhood of Fort MacDonald and Wilson's Bungalow.

I find the minor road from Baṇḍárawela to Weḷimaḍa in capital order. I hope we shall get the bridge over the Matetille-oya next year.

August 2.—Inspect local works in the morning. Lay out new road to connect the cemetery with the town. The road runs through paddy fields all the way until it comes out at the bottom of the kachchéri hill close to the police station. I have arranged with the owners of paddy fields to give them lands instead.

August 3.—Inspect the jail in the morning and review further-examination prisoners. Inspect prison working parties. Get a party to work upon the new cemetery road. Kachchéri afterwards as usual. Headmen of Wellassa complain greatly of want of rain in that division. The crop is very short in consequence. Field owners of Batticaloa came all the way into Nilgala and cut one of the dams over the Galoya by night. Fortunately our people were able to repair it again in the course of a day or two.

August 26.—Inspect works in progress in the town. Visit the jail.

September 24.—Papers in the morning. Kachchéri until 3. Meeting of Jubilee Committee to decide about disposal of balance. Resolved unanimously that after putting up a railing round the memorial tree, one-third the balance be devoted to the formation of the nucleus of a museum in the Town Hall, the rest to ornamenting the building.

September 27.—Ride to Passara in the morning inspecting land claimed by Baba Appu between the 7th and 8th mileposts on the way. The land is all clearly the property of the Crown, having apparently never been broken up for any propose of cultivation whatever, except the lot upon which a house and garden stand. The claimant has been noticed to bring his deeds to the kachchéri, but it is clear that he does not possess any deed upon which such a claim could be maintained. He says the unbroken land was given to him by Major Douglas (a former Assistant Agent of Badulla). He admits, however, that the Major gave no deed with the land. There is nothing, too, to show that Major Douglas had himself any title to the land. (He is said to have bought it from natives.) In the afternoon I ride to Alupota, meeting the headmen on the way. Discuss with them the condition and prospects of the kóralé. Cultivation has suffered greatly from the excessive drought.

September 28.—Ride to Buttala, sixteen or seventeen miles. In the afternoon I do business with the headmen, inspect elephants caught under license—which I carefully examine—in Uva and in the Hambantoṭa Districts, eleven in all. Inspect the Buttala-ela with the Provincial Engineer. The Provincial Engineer lays out a diversion in the channel whereby a leak in the dam may be avoided. The people consent to execute the cutting at once. We promise them a sluice, for the branch ela, from the village irrigation vote.

September 29.—Travel to Demódara, breakfasting in the bed of the Parapé-oya. On our way in the afternoon we see three elephants in the open, and a few minutes afterwards came upon a leopard drinking at a waterhole in a rock.

September 30.—Went to inspect a large tank some half a dozen miles off. It is breached, and long ago deserted. No remains of any interest. It is very doubtful that if it were restored a sufficient number of people could be induced to settle under it to justify the necessary outlay in restoring it. Further progress in the afternoon is prevented by heavy rain.

October 1.—At Demódara Buttala. We are obliged to give up the idea of reaching Kębilitta by this route, hearing that there is no water at all along the line of march; so great has been the drought for some time back.

October 2.—Sunday.

October 3.—Return to Buttala, halting for breakfast at the Parape-oya. Inspect Buttala tank and fields. Consider plan for returning the escape water of the ela to the bed of this tank, so as to increase the supply to fields below, which suffer much from want of water when the higher fields are under cultivation.

October 4.—To Okkanpiṭiya (six or seven miles) for breakfast. There are twenty families in this village with about twelve amunams of paddy land, but irrigation is very uncertain, depending altogether on rain. The tank only fills every three or four years. The Kumbukkan-oya runs through the middle of the village, but the water is too low to be turned to any account. There are vestiges of an anicut, six miles up the river, and the ancient channel from it to this and other villages can still be traced the people say. I regret I cannot examine the old work in my present trip. Máligawila would also be worth a visit, some six miles to the south or south-west, where I am told there are a great many interesting ruins. Hold some general inquiries. Resume the march in the afternoon. Two miles on we pass through the village of Karawalagolla. Four families only. No fields. Thence eight miles all through forest, in which are many fine ebony trees, to Kahambanne, where we halt for the night. Here there are about twelve amunams under asweddumisation, dependent entirely upon rain, though the river is close at hand. Many of the fields are said not to have been once cultivated within the last ten years. The question is, how to raise the water to the level of the fields. By pumps? This is the problem everywhere in Buttala as in Weḷlassa.

October 5.—To Máráwa (four miles) on the Maragolla-oya. There are here fifteen families with fifteen amunams of land. Water precarious. Thence to Wędikumbura (three miles); fifty families here. About twenty-five amunams of land are subject to yearly cultivation, being under service of the Moragalla-oya. The other fields, ten or twelve amunams, depend upon rain, and often lie fallow for several years together. Thence through Ettimalé (six miles on), a wretched village occupied by ten families, who cultivate eight amunams from tank wholly dependent upon rain. Four miles more bring us to Wattégama, where we halt for the night. This is a temple village, all the inhabitants being under service to the vihâre. About thirty families or 150 inhabitants, all miserably housed, fed, and clad. We examine the dágoba and other ruins before dinner.

The fields here are altogether dependent upon rain, and cultivation is accordingly very precarious. I inquire of the priests and the people whether there are not the ruins of any old tank about. They say "no," but there must have been some more certain and plentiful supply of water in former days, for the temple and the village must have been in a much more flourishing condition formerly than now, to judge from the ruins. I tell the headmen to make search in the jungle round about.

October 6.—March to Andiyáwela for breakfast. We pass through no villages, our road all the way to Kębilitta being through forest. Reached Kębilitta at 4: whole journey about fifteen miles. There are ten families here living entirely upon chena cultivation. In the morning we inspect an old tank on the further side of the river, which is small, however, and could easily be restored by the people settled in the neighbourhood if they would take the trouble to do so This settlement is quite in the heart of the forest on the bank of the Kumbukkan-áru, and is the furthest inhabited place in Uva in the direction of the sea. There is a village within ten miles. The nearest are Wattégama, above described (a temple village, however) and Kúmana in the Panama kóralé of the Eastern Province, near the sea.

Inspect tanks on both sides of the river. They are both breached, and do not appear to have been in use for a very long period. What appear to have been fields cover an insignificant area, and are now quite grown over with shrubs. There is not the promise of a population that would encourage one to do anything towards restoring the former irrigation resources of this place. An old anicut is said to have existed higher up the river, of which there are vestiges remaining. I shall try to find it to-morrow, but both the Provincial Engineer and myself quite agree that it would be a waste of money to do anything here. There is no object in encouraging a settlement. It would be better to afford inducement to the few people here to go back to some of the villages we have passed through on our way, by affording those villages tolerably certain means of cultivation. We are both inclined to think that the best relief to the inhabitants of this dry and thinly-peopled kóralé is to be found in an anicut somewhere about Nakkala. Talaguru viháré on a hill, some six miles off, is said to possess some interesting ruins, but I fear we cannot visit it, as we have not the means of getting the road cleared, which lies through a jungle of impenetrable thorns.

October 7.—Engaged all the morning and for a considerable part of the day in disposing of tappal, two large packets of papers having reached me from Badulla last night. Some general work with the people of the place. Tried to reach the old anicut up the river, but it got too late to allow of my going far enough. The Provincial Engineer, who started earlier, was able to find it. Only a few big blocks of stone remain, thrown out of position: and nothing could be traced near the river on either side of the channel.

October 8.—Papers. Back towards Wattégama, on the road homewards, to Diggalla, where we camp for the night, and are much inconvenienced by want of water (there is no village here).

October 9.—Reach Ettimalé for breakfast, hearing a few complaints, &c., on the way, as we pass through the several wretched villages visited in the course of our outward march. Although these people are so badly off for the necessaries of life, their complaints were more of matrimonial troubles than of insufficiency of food. Reach Kawndawa in Buttala Vędirata early enough in the afternoon to allow of our pitching our tent in comfort.

October 10.—Hold some general inquiries in the morning before starting touching the condition and prospects of the village. Here they have a sufficiency of stream water to supply their wants if they only work properly upon their dam and ęla. Two boys (young priests) were killed by lightning a few days ago, a couple of miles from here. The pansala in which they were was destroyed. Ride through Nakkala to a stream, four miles further on towards Alupota (in all about ten miles), where we breakfast. Ride on in the afternoon to Passara, another ten miles or so.

October 11.—Ride into Badulla in the morning. Kachchéri as usual.

November 27.—The Provincial Engineer fully agrees with me that the Taldena-ęla as it now stands is utterly incapable of fulfilling the original object had in view when the fine anicut at its head was constructed. The chief demand upon it will be within its last section, where the bulk of the land to be opened lies Indeed the features of the country scarcely admit of any asweddumisation higher up In the last section of the ęla the aqueduct is only 1½ ft. wide. In the upper sections the width is nowhere more than 2½ ft., while it ought to be about 7 ft. It will be necessary to widen the channel through its entire length, and the Provincial Engineer will draw up an estimate. We agree that the work should be done next year. Ride back to Badulla.

December 3.—Meet headmen at Wilson's Bungalow. Ride up to the Kanda-ęla and go over the upper part of the channel with the District Engineer and Mr. Spence of Ambawela estate. Fully consider the question of the supply of water in the oya (the Kuḍá-oya) to the estate water-wheels. It was never my intention to take more water from the Kuḍá-oya into the Kanda-ęla than hitherto, but to conserve to the utmost the quantity taken in at the intake in its passage through the ęla. In my inspection, out of which the work now in progress emanated, I was convinced that two-thirds at least of the water was lost on its way to the field from leakage. If the Kanda-ęla supply is to be increased (a thing certainly most earnestly to be desired), it must be increased from some other source—from the Nánu-oya or from Mipilimana. The first scheme is to be preferred, because affording not an occasional but a constant increase. The Kuḍá-oya supplies ten anicuts below the Kanda-ęla and below estate water-wheels. As it is, these ten channels fail in the dry weather. The scheme will not be complete until the ancient cutting at Kandakępu Eliya be utilised by the diversion into it of the Paṭṭipola stream, whence it will be carried to the Kanda-ęla. There are rumours of objections likely to be raised on the part of Nuwara Eliya to our taking water from the Nánu-oya, but there cannot properly be any. The Nánu-oya is unavailed of until it reaches fields of Kotmalé, receiving on its way a number of tributaries. In the afternoon the District Engineer and I traverse the remainder of the Kanda-ęla and so descend on foot to Wilson's Bungalow, fortunately escaping the rain.

December 29 and 30.—Very busy days in the kachchéri. The revenue for the year shows a satisfactory advance upon 1886, especially when it is remembered that we have had no accidental windfall as in 1886, amounting to over Rs. 10,000 (sale of confiscated fields). Revenue for 1887, Rs. 177,122·48; for 1886, Rs. 173,566·99. As in the preceding three years every item of fixed revenue has been duly recovered within the year. There are no arrears. All repayments of irrigation loans due within the year have been secured. The Road Ordinance has been worked with marked success, and everybody has paid or been made to work or otherwise dealt with, except a comparatively small number who are evading warrants. The revenue of the Road Committee was a good deal over what it was in 1886. (I cannot get the figures just now.)

REPORTS

ON THE

WORKING OF THE THOROUGHFARES ORDINANCE.

WESTERN PROVINCE.

COLOMBO DISTRICT.

THE working of the Thoroughfares Ordinance in 1887 has been, on the whole, more satisfactory than in 1886. The following table gives a comparative statement for the three years the new Ordinance has been in operation :—

	1885.	1886.	1887.
Total on list	65,089	65,324	66,829
Paid or laboured :			
Commuted at single rate ...	46,690	42,371	45,402
Worked six days	1,771	2,919	4,417
Worked twelve days	168	411	348
Commuted double labour ...	1,662	1,828	661
Total ...	50,291	47,529	50,828
Balance ...	14,798	17,795	16,001
Exempted, &c., before issue of warrants ...	725	1,266	2,451
Balance warrants issued	14,073	16,529	13,550
Arrested :			
Fined	5	1	7
Imprisoned	325	14	41
Labour centres	—	919	503
Allowed to pay or labour on cause shown	14	692	760
Exempted, &c.	7	367	571
Paid in other Districts	4	380	1,047
Double entries	—	134	135
Total ...	355	2,507	3,064
Balance not arrested :			
Left the village	4	103	2,720
Unaccounted for	13,714	13,919	7,766
Total ...	13,718	14,022	10,486

The District has an area of 532 square miles, with a population of 300,605 inhabitants.

The number of persons who discharged their liability is satisfactory, being 77 per cent. of the total number returned as liable, and 16·9 of the total population—a larger percentage than has been previously realised. It may however be urged that the number of those who "apparently" succeeded in evading their liability is still very large. This is due to the fact that it has been customary in past years for the division officers to enter in their householders' lists the name of every native of their village, whether actually resident or not, provided he was in the habit of paying an occasional visit to his place of birth. There is a large unsettled population in the Colombo District—unsettled in the sense of being constantly on the move between this District and others. It consists of bungalow servants, carpenters, blacksmiths, masons, carters, pada boatmen, petty traders and hawkers, plumbago diggers, gemmers, and fugitive criminals. The villages on or near the sea coast are very thickly, in fact, over-populated ; and many a man, finding it impossible to earn a living at home, leaves his District and gets employment elsewhere. He still, however, feels a strong attachment to his birthplace, and whenever he has sufficient money will return to it. In consequence of this the names of such persons have been retained on the division officers' lists in this District, and there was thus a double chance of dealing with any defaulter among them for the reason that his name probably appeared on two lists, *i.e.*, in this District and in the District where he had gone to earn his living. I am of opinion that the system of retaining the names of these persons on the lists of the Committee is a good one. It is true that by doing so the total recoveries in money and labour form a smaller percentage on the total number in the lists than they would if these names were excluded. But, on the other hand, the Committee succeeds in recovering from a larger number of men than it would if the above system were not adopted, for it enforces the liability of many persons who would otherwise probably evade it altogether, and thus increases the actual revenue. For instance, suppose the number of permanent residents liable to labour in a village to be 800. If the list is confined to these, the District Road Committee will enforce the liability of (say) 720—*i.e.*, 90 per cent. of the total, allowing 10 per cent. for deficiencies. There are, however (say) an additional 200 persons liable to labour, who have houses and families in the village. These men are for the most part absent in other Districts seeking a living, but periodically return to the village. If their names are added to the lists, the District Road Committee will recover

from (say) 50 of them, making a total recovery from 770 men out of 1,000, *i.e.*, 77 per cent. The percentage of recoveries is of course smaller than that shown on the list of 800, but (and this is the great point) the actual recoveries are larger, and the additional 50 men, whose liability is thus enforced, would probably succeed in escaping it altogether if their names were omitted from the lists. It is not a fair test of a Committee's efficiency to hold its recoveries to be good or bad according to the percentage they bear to the total number appearing on its lists. A much fairer test would be the proportion borne by the recoveries to the total population in the District. The population of the Colombo District is 300,605, and if it be assumed that one in every five should be a male between eighteen and fifty-five, the total number of these persons would be 60,121. In 1887 the District Road Committee has recovered from 50,843, and this shows that, though the recoveries are only 77 per cent. of an inflated list of 66,829 men, which includes persons more often absent from than present in their villages, they are close on 85 per cent. of the proportion of the total population estimated to be liable to labour. The estimate that one-fifth of the total population are males between eighteen and fifty-five takes no account of Tamil immigrants, Buddhist priests, and persons sick or in jail, and I believe that if these were deducted the recoveries would rise to 90 per cent. on the proportion of population actually liable to labour in any particular year.*

The only other matter which calls for remark is the system of dealing with defaulters. Here the law provides only two courses: a month's rigorous imprisonment or a fine of ten rupees after arrest on warrant, which warrant the District Road Committee is bound to send out for all persons who commit default of performing double labour. But another means has been adopted of dealing with defaulters; that is, of sending them to what are called labour centres. These labour centres are places selected in different parts of the District for the opening of new roads, and are placed in charge of overseers under the general direction of the Kóralé Mudaliyár. The road is then opened by the labour of the defaulters, and the procedure of enlisting their services is as follows. The headman who holds a warrant for the arrest of a particular defaulter meets him, shows him the warrant, and gives him the alternative of going to work for twenty-four days at the nearest labour centre, or of being forthwith arrested and produced before the Chairman of the District Road Committee to be dealt with according to law. If the defaulter prefers the labour centre, he goes there, and after he has worked there for twenty-four days his liability for that year is considered to be discharged. If a defaulter quits the labour centre before completing his twenty-four days, the warrant against him is re-issued, and, when arrested, he is taken before the Chairman of the District Road Committee and sent to jail for a month's rigorous imprisonment. The Government allows 12 cents per head per diem to meet the cost of feeding these defaulters, and pays over that money through the District Road Committee to feeding contractors who are appointed by the Mudaliyárs.

The objections to these labour centres, as at present constituted, are—

(1) They are not recognised by the law, and consequently there is no legal power to enforce work.

(2) The defaulters are fed from prison votes, whereas the Prisons Department gets no labour from them in return.

(3) It is to the interest of every one that the defaulter should do as little work as possible.

(4) It is impossible to check the labour performed by the defaulters.

The institution of these centres no doubt prevented overcrowding in the jails, by substituting, as it were, the partial confinement and lighter discipline of rural prisons for the stricter confinement and discipline of the central jails. But, in point of fact, confinement and discipline are out of question in a labour centre. It is in charge of a person of the stamp of an ordinary road overseer, and is provisioned by a feeding contractor, who, as often as not, is some relation of the overseer's. These two men have absolute control over the centre without any check but a very occasional visit from the Mudaliyár, Superintendent of Minor Roads, or other superior officer, whose time will not allow more frequent inspections. The overseer and contractor know the work cannot be properly checked, and the result is that a large proportion of the names on their diet roll are defaulters who have done little or no work and have eaten very few or none of the diets appearing against their names. The system is of course the same as that of bogus coolies on a road overseer's check-roll, but with one difference: the road overseer is checked by a superior whose interest it is to keep down expenditure, while the labour centre overseer is not; for, the only body interested in checking expenditure—that is, the Prisons Department—has no control whatever over the labour centre. The defaulters of course are ready enough to leave the centre after two or three days' work with a clean discharge of their liability for the year; and as long as they get fed while they are at the centre, and are allowed to leave it as soon as they wish, it is not unnatural that they connive at the overseer and contractor pocketing the value of twenty-four diets on account of each defaulter, though only three or four diets may have been actually supplied.

It is evident that such a system is simply a premium on default, and that, if persisted in, it would soon render defaulters almost as numerous as they were before 1885.

I have recently introduced a modification into the system by establishing three new labour centres at quarries where the work consists solely of metal-breaking. The defaulter is given so many bushels of metal to break as a task for twenty-four days' labour, and the diet money will not be paid until the metal is handed over. It will be the defaulter's interest to see that he gets his food as long as he is at the centre, and the feeding contractor's as well as the overseer's to see that he breaks his proper quantity of metal; and misappropriation of the diet money will be thus very largely guarded against. The work, too, is hard and distasteful, and eminently calculated to bring home the consequences of default to the defaulter. I am however bound to state that even this system has its defects. Suppose a defaulter, who has a task given him of six bushels a day of metal to break for twenty-four days, only breaks two or three bushels a day, but yet remains at the centre

* It is generally assumed that out of any fixed population 20 per cent. are males between the ages of eighteen and fifty-five, and are thus liable to labour. Of this 20 per cent. one-tenth is considered a fair amount to allow for sick, dead, lame, blind, and other non-effectives, so that 18 per cent. of the population is the population which, if the law were perfectly enforced, should discharge their liability. I think it speaks well for the working of the Ordinance in the Colombo District, with its large wandering population, that recoveries have been made from 16·9 of the population, or from over 93 per cent. of what would constitute perfect working.

for his full twenty-four days. How can the Committee legally punish him for failing to do the task set him? He has worked his twenty-four days and will claim his discharge. Possibly, he may go on and finish his task, remaining for that purpose thirty or forty days at the centre. In that case, the feeding contractor would naturally object to being paid for twenty-four diets only; and if his objection were allowed, an extra expense would fall on the Prison Department, from whose votes the diets are paid for.

Labour centres, to be of any use at all, must first be legalised, and power given to exact a task from each defaulter working at them, under pain of imprisonment, if he fails without excuse, the proof of which should lie on him, to complete his task in the time given. In this way only can it be found possible to let the labour centre take the place of the jail. Other defects in the Thoroughfares Ordinance which require to be amended by Legislation have been dealt with by me in the Administration Report for the year, under the head of "Legislation required." Some of these amendments are, in my opinion, urgently needed.

I annex a report on the Colombo minor roads by the Superintendent of Minor Roads.

F. R. SAUNDERS,
Chairman.

September 20, 1888.

Report on the Minor Roads of the Colombo District for 1887.

OWING to the absence of the Chairman on furlough in Europe, the annual upkeep votes were not sanctioned till his return, hence later than usual; and, as compared with last and previous years, a reduction of nearly 50 per cent. was made in the money votes and a proportionate increase in what is termed "labour votes."

The accompanying statement shows what was sanctioned in both money and labour, and it will be observed that though Rs. 13,300 was voted in "labour," I actually received only Rs. 7,468 out of it. Had all the labour voted been forthcoming, I would have been able probably to show some improvement on the present condition of many of the roads.

Statement of Expenditure incurred on the Minor Roads in the Colombo District during 1887.

Name of Road.	Length in Miles.	Labour Vote.	Money Vote.	On Special Works.	Supplementary Vote.	Toll Grant Vote.	Total.
Hewágam Kóralé.		Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Battaramulla to Morakçtiya (Kottáwa)	4	37 50	98 96	—	—	—	136 46
Kótté to Talaṇgama and Bópé ...	18	1,206 50	699 26	—	—	1,098 46	3,004 22
Kohilawatta to Wçlikaḍa and Talaṇgama	5	28 50	141 40	100 93	—	—	270 83
Talaṇgama to Kaḍuwela ...	3	88 50	—	—	—	—	88 50
Bópé to Damboré	3¼	—	243 63	—	—	—	243 63
Araṇgala to Morakçtiya ...	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Aturugiriya to Kottáwa ...	3	141 0	—	—	—	—	141 0
Panágoḍa to Hénpiṭa ...	4	281 25	—	—	—	—	281 25
Salpiṭi Kóralé.							
Wçlikaḍa to Náwala and Rattanapiṭiya	6	452 50	—	58 35	—	—	510 85
General Cemetery to Bambalapiṭiya...	2	—	198 99	—	—	—	198 99
Wçlikaḍa to Yakbçdda ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Polgasówiṭa to Kottáwa ...	4	—	—	—	299 78	—	299 78
Boralçsgamuwa to Pannipiṭiya ...	2	148 50	—	—	—	—	148 50
Galkissa to Mirihána ...	3	197 50	99 21	—	—	—	296 71
Angulána to Mámpé ...	6½	76 50	—	—	299 90	54 25	430 65
Mirihána to Kottáwa ...	6½	183 75	—	—	—	887 94	1,071 69
Moraṭuwa to Lunáwa ...	1	—	96 0	—	—	—	96 0
Mámpé to Kottawa	4	252 0	—	—	299 55	—	551 55
Pámankaḍa to Kçsbçwa and Kahataḍuwa	12	—	—	—	—	3,588 41	3,588 41
Attiḍiya to Ratmalána ...	2	84 0	99 35	—	—	—	183 35
Etulkótté to Talawatugoḍa ...	2¼	192 0	96 40	—	—	—	288 40
Digarolla to Pánaduré ...	4	150 12½	499 81	—	—	—	649 93½
Kçsbçwa to Gonábendidúwa ...	2½	228 75	—	470 0	—	—	698 75
Mádiwala to Embuldeniya ...	1½	—	—	—	—	—	—
Siyané Kóralé West.							
Wattala through Hunupiṭiya to Mahara	4¾	348 0	147 3	—	—	—	495 3
Kçlaniya to Daḷugama ...	3	249 25	98 47	—	—	—	347 72
Hunupiṭiya to Rágama ...	2½	140 25	44 70	—	—	—	184 95
Biyagama to Henaratgoḍa ...	9¾	329 50	147 95	—	—	897 22	1,374 67
Gampaha to Alutgama and Radáwana	10¾	351 0	249 9	—	—	730 0	1,330 9
Pattalagedara to Thiháriya ...	2	247 50	—	—	—	—	247 50
Siyané Kóralé East.							
Wçké to Wçliwériya ...	6½	545 50	196 31	—	—	—	741 81
Váyangoḍa to Attanagalla ...	3¾	226 50	149 80	—	—	227 11	603 41
Pasyála (through Attanagalla to Wçké) to Haṇwçlla ...	20	600 12½	494 76	—	—	461 57	1,556 45½
Púgoḍa to Kosgama ...	3	—	91 48	—	—	397 51	488 99
Alutkúru Kóralé South.							
Ekala to Henaratgoḍa ...	6¾	175 75	197 35	—	—	499 52½	872 62½
Hunupiṭiya to Hçndala ...	2¼	169 62½	99 38	—	—	—	269 0½
Tuḍçlla to Pamunugama ...	3	75 50	149 45	—	—	—	224 95
Siduwa to Koṭugoḍa ...	2	112 50	—	—	—	386 32	498 82
Já-çla canal road	1	45 0	—	—	—	—	45 0
Rágama to Kandána ...	2	103 50	—	—	—	—	103 50
Total ...	—	7,468 37½	4,338 78	629 28	899 23	9,228 31½	22,563 98

Some roads I found had been left untouched during last year, whilst on others little had been done for two or three years previously. It was my endeavour, therefore, rather than entirely abandon them, to effect as much repairs as possible on all, thus dividing the labour available as far as possible, rather than restrict them to one or two special roads in each district.

Out of the labour votes apportioned for the forty different minor roads in the District, on only one-third of them was there any labour forthcoming.

To the above must be added the toll grants, which of course were restricted to the roads on which they are levied, and which, I regret to have to add, do not on comparison show any increase on receipts of previous years, excepting in the case of that from Gampaha to Alutgama and Radáwána, the toll rent of which advanced rapidly year by year, but which, curiously enough, decreased in the rent sold for 1888; and this is attributable entirely to the traffic upon it being diverted to the new Gaṇsabháwa road from Piṇwatta to its junction on the Kandy road opposite the Henaratgoḍa resthouse.

Héwágam Kóralé.—The votes have been as follows:—

	Votes. Rs. c.	Expenditure. Rs. c.
In labour	4,100 0 ...	2,235 25
In money	1,300 0 ...	1,284 18
Total ...	5,400 0 ...	3,519 43

for a total mileage of about forty-five miles.

The road first in importance in this kóralé is that from Kóṭṭé to Talaṇgama and Bópé, on which the largest bridge was replaced by one of Vine's rail pile bridges built under contract.

This bridge is that erected at Battaramulla embankment close to the 6th milepost, finished in two spans of 20 ft. each in the centre and the approaches of 10 ft. at each end, at a total cost of Rs. 2,600—a permanent structure being satisfactorily completed. I have endeavoured as much as possible to replace timber girders of other bridges with old rails, whenever any of them required repairs, and, following this practice, was able to introduce old rails in two of the larger bridges on this road, the most important being one of 18 ft. span near the 12th milepost at the Póró field, both the abutments of which were entirely rebuilt.

En passant I may here relate an occurrence with this the first important work I had in hand after I took charge, which might have led to a deal of unpleasant consequence. A temporary bridge had been thrown over this waterway to keep the traffic uninterrupted whilst the bridge was being renewed. The Rev. Mr. Dowbiggin during this time was on circuit in the District, and when returning in his turnout, the horse was seriously injured by going through the temporary roadway through the carelessness of the horsekeeper. Misled by the story as related to him by his servant, the Rev. gentleman lost no time in making a demand on the Committee for the value of his horse. Luckily for me, however, a few hours after the occurrence I happened to be on the spot, and hearing of what had happened, and anticipating trouble, made careful inquiries, and was able to give such a satisfactory explanation of what really occurred as deterred the Rev. gentleman from prosecuting, as he threatened to do, his claim before the courts.

This kóralé has an important addition this year to its roads in the one connecting Padukka junction with the Milláwa road, in the Kalutara District, which is certainly an improvement in every way, on the portion of it in Rayigam kóralé, both in the formation of the roadway and the permanent finish of the cross-drains and bridges. With my knowledge and past experience of this kóralé, and comparing the last with previous years, I find a very rapid increase in wheel traffic on the road from Kóṭṭé to Talaṇgama and Bópé, and I venture to express a hope that the District Road Committee will treat it more liberally towards its upkeep in the future.

The portion of the Public Works Department road from the Weḷikaḍa toll bar to Kóṭṭé is, I am aware, to be metalled during 1888, as it was found impossible to deal with this portion of the principal road otherwise, owing to the heavy traffic upon it; so that without a more liberal treatment of the minor road in continuation of it to Talaṇgama and Aturugiriya, it is impossible to keep it in fair order for wheel traffic.

Salpiṭi Kóralé, the minor roads of which are under the direct supervision of the Mudaliyár, gave me no uneasiness whatever. It is well known that the minor thoroughfares here have a reputation of their own as being always in exceptionally good order.

On my representation that three roads, for which only "labour votes" were apportioned, had received no attention for want of labour, they were subsequently at the end of the year dealt with on small money votes specially sanctioned for the purpose.

The Rambara-ela bridge, connecting the District of Kalutara with Colombo and Gonábendidúwa, has been repaired at the joint expense of the two Committees on a vote of Rs. 470, and its future upkeep is a question that demands attention. I see no reason why this Committee should be burdened with its upkeep, considering the ferry toll, a little further on at the crossing on the road to Pánaduré, is entirely expended by the District Road Committee of Kalutara.

I must here remark that all the District Road Committee roads in the kóralé compare most favourably with the Public Works Department roads in the District.

The one from Mámpé to Moraṭuwa, which used to be a minor road, has considerably deteriorated since its transfer to the Public Works Department, and is now in much worse condition than the other District Road Committee roads in the District.

The total votes on the different roads in this kóralé, and the expenditure on them, are as follows:—

	Voted. Rs. c.	Expended. Rs. c.
Amount in labour	4,000 0 ...	1,965 62½
In money	2,545 0 ...	2,517 34
Total ...	6,545 0	4,482 96½

on a total length of 60½ miles.

I think it a disgrace to the Government that no steps have been taken to renew the bridge that existed at Kospalankissa, on the Mámpé and Moraṭuwa road, on its transfer to the Public Works Department, and certainly a retrograde step in substituting a ferry boat in the place of a bridge on so important a thoroughfare, and one that must be looked upon as the principal approach road from Mámpé, Kęsbęwa, and other important villages to the railway station at Lunáwa on the Seaside line.

Siyanę Kóralé East.—This division has only four roads under the Committee, making a total mileage of 33¼ miles, the principal one being that from Pasyála to Haṇwęlla, 20 miles in length. With the means at my disposal I have endeavoured to effect repairs through its entire length, and I am glad to say have left the road in very fair order throughout.

I wish I could say as much for the bridges. That at Púgoḍa, of 70 ft. span, made of timber, has been, I learn, standing for the last seventeen years or more, and has been from time to time repaired, and is now so bad that it has had to be propped up with cocoanut trunks twice in the course of the year. I trust the estimate sent in for a rail pile bridge will receive consideration before a total collapse of the bridge takes place and leave the road impracticable for wheel traffic.

Three smaller bridges on the road have been entirely renewed, old rails being used as girders, while the two large bridges at Nikawęlla and Giridara have had the planks over the platforms replaced.

The resthouse at Węka, a miserable little building, received some attention in the addition of a bathroom and stables.

The road from Węka to Węliwériya also requires a new bridge over the Radáwána-ęla to replace that carried away by the floods in 1883. This, too, requires early attention, as the temporary structure doing duty now will not hold out much longer, and it is, I consider, a mere waste of funds to attempt effecting repairs to it: the most economical in the long run is the erection at once of a permanent bridge.

Siyanę Kóralé West has six minor roads, making a total mileage of 32¾ miles, the most important being that from Gampaha to Alutgama and Radáwána and that from Biyagama to Henaratgoḍa, the latter being a portion in continuation of the Public Works Department road from Kęlaniya to Biyagama.

The contrast in the condition of this one and the same road under two different Departments is hardly credible: that portion under the District Road Committee being in first-rate order throughout, whilst at the Kęlaniya end of the Public Works Department road it has been so bad for the greater portion of the year, that much of the traffic was at this end diverted from it to the minor road from Kęlaniya to Dalugama on the Kandy road, a throughfare formerly little used but now taken advantage of owing to the disgraceful condition of the Public Works Department road; the result being that I was obliged in October last to call the special attention of the Committee to this fact, and ask for a special vote of Rs. 150 to effect necessary repairs to it from the increased traffic thus thrown upon it. A bridge of 16 ft. at the 7th milepost on the road from Wattala through Hunupiṭiya to Mahara was entirely renewed with old rails, whilst ordinary repairs were effected throughout.

Alutkúru Kóralé South has a total mileage of 17 miles distributed over six roads, the most important being the one from E'kala to Henaratgoḍa railway station, which has had two bridges of 16 ft. and 18 ft. span renewed with rails; several others have received ordinary upkeep attention.

This road runs mainly over fields, and has as many as twenty-six bridges of 4 ft. to 25 ft. span, besides numerous cross drains and culverts. It is a costly road to keep in order, owing to the difficulty in obtaining gravel or other suitable material, excepting from long distances, which greatly increases the upkeep expenditure.

A few more additional waterways are necessary, for which provision should be made on special estimates.

A road running along the banks of the Já-ęla canal, known as the Canal road, is, I consider, of little public utility, and might be well abandoned, the few owners of the fields by the side of it doing what is necessary to keep it in order, as they are the only persons benefited by it.

That from Rágama to Kandána, comparatively a new road, continues to increase in popularity, and is much availed of by those from E'kala and Já-ęla travelling to take the train at Mahara. This station must have a much larger passenger traffic upon it now compared with previous years before this road was opened, principally owing to the bad condition in which the main road from the bridge-of-boats to Já-ęla has been for the last two years, which has necessitated and almost made compulsory for passengers travelling by hackery and other conveyances between these two places to take the road from Kandána to Mahara and thence by train to Colombo.

A sum of Rs. 2,513·41 was paid by the Committee to the Forest Department for the timber supplied during the year for the several minor roads, and I may add that I do not think the system now adopted by the Committee the most satisfactory in its own interests, for the same timber if supplied by private parties could be obtained at much lower rates.

Road Ordinance Labour.—The working with the Road Ordinance labour is at the best very unsatisfactory. The mere fact of a large number turning out to labour is deemed sufficient, whilst the work provided for them is merely upkeep repairs, to which a fresh lot turn out every week in large numbers. How far they are suited for such work, only one who has watched and personally supervised such labour, as I have done, can form an opinion: I consider them worthless. The work these men are put to is only ordinary "upkeep repairs" on minor roads, which some thousands who do not commute their labour by a money payment are called upon to perform.

At present their work is, as it were, frittered away. The Superintendent is handicapped in not being able to remove villagers over ten miles from their residences, so that whether the weather is favourable or not, and whether any minor road in the vicinity requires anything to be done to it or not, work must be provided for them: hence this labour is, I consider, of little use.

I think a more satisfactory system of working the Road Ordinance labour must be established, and one I would strongly recommend would be "metal-breaking" at certain centres. I am aware that every man may not be able to break the same quantity, but a minimum of say five bushes per diem per man may be fixed as a fair day's labour, which, disposed of to the Public Works Department, would pay for the cost of granite in blocks, overseer's wages, and leave Re. 1·50, the

value of every Road Ordinance labourer, who having broken thirty bushels of metal, whether in three or six days, should be considered as having worked his full term.

I also think it not out of place to speak of what is known as the "Labour Centre System," to which those in default of either double payment or double labour are brought up on warrants and sent to labour for twenty-four days, being provided with two meals a day. This was introduced by Mr. Cameron during his tenure of office. The only advantage in this that I can see is that so many thousands of men who have not paid their tax are thus wiped out of the defaulters' lists with benefit to the overseer in charge and the contractor who feeds them: the overseer, most probably a headman, secures a berth, and is supposed to overlook some special work which, as he is paid at so much per diem, it is his interest to prolong as much as possible as well as the contractor's in the additional length of time he has to feed the men sent to the centre; whether they are there or not, the charge, I have no doubt, is made and the contractor paid accordingly.

These "labour centres" are under the immediate direction of District Mudaliyárs, who, from what I have seen of their own legitimate duties, have enough to do without this additional responsibility being put upon them. I think, therefore, the sooner they are discontinued, the better.

In conclusion, I am glad to be in a position to state, that though the working of labour under the Ordinance was new to me, I always managed to give work at the time and place appointed to all who turned out, and no serious *contretemps* occurred in working the large number who laboured during the year, so that there was no cause for any complaint, which would certainly have been made much of, and have perhaps reached higher authorities, had a single villager not been provided with work when attending for labour.

Having been previously employed in the same capacity, the work was not strange to me; and as I was thoroughly acquainted with the District, I was able to enter upon my duties at once, and trust I have given the Committee satisfaction.

FRANCIS L. DANIEL,
Acting Superintendent of Minor Roads.

RATNAPURA DISTRICT.

THE number of persons liable to contribute labour in Sabaragamuwa during this year was 22,023, of whom 14,812 commuted their liability at the single rate before March 1. Of the balance, after exemptions given, of 6,633 liable for labour, 3,559 performed labour six days and 298 paid double rates, leaving 2,776 to be called out for double term of labour, of whom 69 obeyed the notice and 99 paid Rs. 3 each.

Deducting further exemptions given to those noticed to labour, but found to be wholly unfit for labour, there remained 1,697 defaulters, against whom warrants were issued; and these were accounted for before the close of the year with the exception of 121.

I annex a comparative statement showing the working of the Ordinance in this District during the three years in which the Ordinance has been in force, which shows a satisfactory progress in the observance of its requirements by the inhabitants of this District.

	1885.	1886.	1887.
Number liable ...	21,821	21,870	22,023
Paid at single rate ...	14,358	13,200	14,812
Exempted before March 1, &c. ...	826	366	578
Balance for labour ...	6,637	8,304	6,633
Performed single labour ...	2,797	4,552	3,559
Paid Rs. 3 at first notice ...	169	349	298
Balance for double labour ...	2,935	3,403	2,776
Performed double labour ...	214	173	69
Paid Rs. 3 at second notice ...	82	113	99
Exempted after notice ..	439	1,020	911
Balance for warrants ...	1,797	2,097	1,697
Exempted after warrants ...	192	721	519
Left District and dead ...	5	445	456
Paid elsewhere	34	83	115
Paid Rs. 3	9	14	96
Fined	9	17	15
Imprisoned	204	198	52
Labour centre	—	206	323
Outstanding on December 1 ...	1,344	413	121

2. I am still of opinion that the percentage of those who would commute their liability to labour at Re. 1·50 would be materially increased if the old date of payment at that rate, viz., March 31, were restored. It is my intention this year to see how rapidly, having due regard to the full exaction of work and the requirements of the Ordinance, the labour remaining on March 1 can be turned out: it is my belief that it can be exhausted before the end of September, leaving ample time for the execution of warrants against those in default. If I am successful in this direction, I shall apply for the extension of the date in this District to the original term, March 31.

The reaping of the maha crops from the fields and the harvesting of the kurakkan crops in the Bintenna villages occupies a large number of the villagers in February, and they are in a better position at the end of March to meet the payment than they are in February.

3. As noted in my report on this subject last year, I insisted on a full equivalent in broken metal being given by each labourer to the Public Works Department, and if the quantity required was not supplied in the six days, the labourer was turned out again and kept at the work until the full measure was given. That it was not an excessive demand is proved that in some cases it was given in five days. I propose this year to have separate working sheds for the villagers, at which the Public Works Department will supply metal to be broken; the labourer will take as many days or as few within twenty-one days to break his quantity, and may bring his wife or other member of his

family to assist him; the quantity will be measured and taken over by the overseer on completion, and he will receive his certificate of labour. In this way the constant disputes and bickerings between Tamil and Siṇhalese will be avoided, and the labour will be given in the manner most congenial to the villager.

4. The requirements of the Ordinance are best observed in the Kaḍawatu kóralé, in which, at the end of the year there were only 4 defaulters unaccounted for out of 1,886 liable to the tax, and in which only 89 warrants were issued.

The Náwadun kóralé ranks next, with 5 warrants outstanding on December 31 out of 5,193 on the roll, but 547 warrants had been issued against defaulters, and the headmen had to be pressed to execute them.

In the Kuruwiṭi kóralé, out of 5,757 on the roll, 4,104 paid at single rate and 371 warrants were eventually issued against defaulters, leaving 12 unaccounted for at the end of the year.

In the Męda kóralé 1,909 paid at Re. 1·50 out of 2,565, and 186 warrants had to be issued.

In the Aṭakalan kóralé the Ordinance worked with the least satisfaction to me, and special attention must be given to this kóralé during the ensuing year.

I attribute this a great deal to the change of officers in charge of the kóralé in the early part of the year, succeeding on a similar change in 1886. The Raṭémahatmayá appointed in 1887 was necessarily new to the District, and was unable to enforce that attention to the provisions of the Ordinance which I expect from each Raṭémahatmayá.

In the Kolonná kóralé, where the rate of commutation of labour is only Re. 1, the Ordinance works very satisfactorily, and there is little default except in the most outlying part of the Kóralé, in the Diyapotagam pattu adjoining the Hambantoṭa District.

In the Kukulu kóralé the majority of people elect to labour, only 391 out of 1,220 commuting their liability. There are no principal roads whatever in this kóralé, and the work on minor roads is necessarily more light and easy, and does not include metal-breaking.

5. The defaulters in Kurúwiṭi kóralé, Kukulu kóralé, and parts of Náwadun kóralé were worked in the labour centre at Ratnapura; those in Aṭakalan kóralé at Mádampé, those in Kolonná kóralé at Maḍuwanwala, and those in Męda and Kaḍawatu kóralés at Imbulpé and Opanaike. In each case nothing but metal-breaking was given for the whole term of the confinement, and only rice and salt as diet. Only 15, being stubborn and notorious defaulters, received the full punishment of one month's imprisonment in the jail. To these also nothing but incessant stone-breaking within the jail walls was given.

6. It has, in short, been my endeavour to make the labour real to the defaulters and to those turned out to work, and to give as little indulgence as possible to those against whom default is clearly proved: thus, only 97 were allowed to purge their default when brought up on warrants by paying Rs. 3. If the Ordinance is to be successful, every one must realise that, unless he obeys its requirements by a certain date, he will certainly undergo imprisonment or fine. To accept payment of an amount, which can under the Ordinance only be accepted at a prescribed time and under prescribed conditions, is, in my opinion, to weaken seriously the working of the Ordinance and to encourage default in the villages.

7. I again desire to draw attention to the omission in the Ordinance to enable the Chairman to take bail from a defaulter brought up on warrants, whose statements require verification before sentence can be pronounced.

8. And also I again plead for the abolition of the double notice, which acts solely as a notice to quit the District before warrants can issue from the District Road Committee office.

The comparative statement annexed will show how very little effect this notice has, and it should be discontinued.

ROADS.

9. The votes sanctioned by the Provincial Road Committee were expended during the year, and minor roads were kept in as good a condition as funds would allow.

10. The following permanent improvements to roads were effected during the year:—

Kuruwiṭi Kóralé.

(1) Widening of trace and blasting of rocks along road from Kuruwiṭa to Eratna.

(2) Reconstruction of the bridge over the Irahandapandola, on road to Gilimalé, which was damaged by floods.

(3) Construction of stone culverts on road from Kendangamuwa to Kiré-çla. I am very anxious to open this road for cart traffic now that the Nambapána road is to be completed this year, as it is an important connection between that and the Colombo road, and opens up a large part of the Pallé pattu of this kóralé.

(4) Opening of bridle road from Hunagéwatta to boundary of Kuruwiṭi and Panawal kóralés, about two miles. This effects a great saving in distance to traffic and passengers between Dehiówiṭa and Ratnapura. It requires a few bridges, but is available for riding.

Náwadun Kóralé.

(1) Marapona to Dęla. Three miles of this road beginning at Marapona were thoroughly repaired and culverts put in: it is a very important road and should be annually advanced.

(2) A new culvert was provided on the road from Ratnapura to Kuruwiṭa near the latter place, and that part of it near Ratnapura was much improved. This is the most direct route to Pasdun kóralé and Kalutara.

Męda Kóralé.

(1) Widening road from Galgoḍa towards Węligépola on road from Balaṇgoḍa to Rakwána.

(2) Improvement of trace from Lellopiṭiya to Bambaraboṭuwa.

Kaḍawatu Kóralé.

(1) Opening of new trace from Morahęla to Olugantoṭa, which shortens the road from Dikoya to Balaṇgoḍa and, in the event of this road being opened as a cart road, saves the necessity of an expensive cart bridge at Elle-aráwa.

(2) New bridge at Tumbagoḍa on road from Tumbagoḍa to Massenna.

Aṭakalan Kóralé.

(1) Road from Mádampé to Hambantoṭa, as far the Kóralé boundary at Timbulkeṭiya, was thoroughly cleared of jungle and better drained than it has been for some years. This road was much cut up by the transport of ebony over it from Galpáya and Pallébędda Nindágam.

(2) New bridges on the road from Rakwána to Everton gap, put up by Mr. Perera, the Superintendent of Depdene estate, under contract with the District Road Committee.

Kolonná Kóralé.

(1) Widening and improvement of road towards Mátara District to Dáponé, a road which it is very important to open out. I went over this country as far as Beralapanatara with the Raṭémahatmayá in September.

(2) The road from Bulutoṭa to Erepóruwa was placed in thorough order in December prior to its transfer to the Public Works Department on January 1, 1888, in exchange for the road known as the south Kukulu tavalam road, which was in their charge, which leads nowhere, and only benefits two semi-abandoned estates.

(3) Culverts were provided on road from Erepóruwa river to Maḍuwanwala.

Kukulu Kóralé.

(1) The trace of the new road from Idangoḍa to Kukulgama was thoroughly cleared by Ordinance labour. I applied for a vote from Council to provide for the removal of rock along the trace, which in some parts is extremely heavy, but have as yet failed to obtain it. The District Road Committee will do what they can in this direction. It is a most useful road, and opens up the Kukulu kóralé most effectually, giving the villagers of the Męda pattu and Pallé pattu easy access to the river and Kalutara.

TOLL GRANTS.

11. The toll grants on the road from Nambapána to Kurugammódara was spent in repairing and providing new édanḍas on the footpath between Nambapána and Kiri-ęla. The new cart road makes a long detour to keep above flood level, and for foot passengers the shorter route alongside of the river will for most months in the year always be the favourite.

The toll grant on the road from Ratnapura to Pasdun kóralé was spent in the usual work of clearing jungle, &c.

The dangerous crossing over the Karawiṭa-gaṇga, on this road, will next year be saved by the construction of a 6-ft. bridle traffic bridge, which has been included in the Supply Bill for this year.

12. I am particularly desirous to have the old trace of this thoroughfare to the Kalutara District re-opened. After crossing the Karawiṭa range, the road runs at a dead level for about twelve miles to a rock called Dunukeiyágala, which is recognised as the limits of Kukulu kóralé. From that point, which is at the foot of a hill, to the end of the nearest cart road in Pasdun kóralé at Morapiṭiya, is only a distance of four miles by a cart road trace, but this having been overgrown the native path is now straight over the hill. I trust the District Road Committee of Kalutara will be able to get the trace, which lies entirely in the Maha pattu, opened for pingo traffic next year.

RESTHOUSES.

13. The following permanent additions and improvements were made to these buildings in the District :—

(1) *Pussęlla.*—A new sitting room in place of the temporary wattle-and-daub maduwa in front of the main building. The new room is 20 by 20, masonry walls, with good venetians on half walls all round.

Bath and earth-closet rooms were provided also for each of the two bedrooms.

After these improvements had been completed by the Public Works Department I removed the high earth bank on its south-western side, taking the earth for the filling up and extension of the embankment in front of the resthouse.

(2) *Pęlmaḍulla.*—Alterations of water-closet into earth-closet.

(3) *Maḍola.*—Construction of new bathroom and earth-closet, and improvement of approach to stables.

(4) *Balangoḍa.*—Construction of a carriage-house with room for harness and horsekeepers.

(5) *Mádampé.*—Construction of screen wall to approach to bathroom, &c.

(6) *Rakwána.*—Alterations of bathrooms on either side of resthouse.

(7) *Horton Plains.*—Construction of shed for storing firewood and straw for horses. Laying out of ground and flower beds about resthouse, and planting of trees and ornamental shrubs. I am much indebted to Mr. Thomas Farr, of Bogawantaláwa, for the constant attention and care bestowed by him on this garden. Mr. Nock, of Hakgala, kindly sent me some English oak seeds to plant here and elsewhere in the Horton Plains.

14. The following further improvements are required at resthouses in the District, and then I think they will really require little attention for many years, except the annual painting and whitewashing :—

(1) *Balangoḍa.*—New bath and closet rooms.
(2) *Ratnapura.*—Alterations to stables and new godowns.
(3) *Maḍola and Pęlmaḍulla.*—Ceilings to bedrooms.

AMBALAMS.

15. An annual vote for these native resthouses is now obtained from the Provincial Road Committee :—

(1) The ambalam near the Erepóru-gaṇga, in Kolonna kóralé, was thoroughly repaired, and is now in good order : it is of great service to those travellers who are often stopped from crossing the river when swollen.

(2) An ambalam at Ayagama in the Kukulu kóralé is being built : it is on a splendid site at the junction of two roads and two streams, and half-way between Kukulégama and the end of new

trace at Idangoḍa. When this road is completed this site should be taken for a resthouse, but at present the road is chiefly used by natives.

16. Mr. A. M. Perera, late of the Public Works Department in the Kalutara District, was appointed head overseer during the year on probation for six months, on a salary of Rs. 50 per mensem and horse allowance.

17. The usual annual statement of revenue and expenditure have already been forwarded.

HERBERT WACE,
Chairman.

Ratnapura, March 6, 1888.

KĘGALLA DISTRICT.

THE administration of the Thoroughfares Ordinance continues to show satisfactory results. Again, as in 1886, there were no arrears at the close of the year, and the proportion written off on account of exemptions and all other deficiencies was only 10·18 per centum of the number originally liable.

2. The percentage of men who paid commutation at the single rate shows a satisfactory increase when contrasted with that of the previous year. In 1887 the number of such payments was 22,448, or 74·1 per cent. of the original abstract, whereas in the previous year it was only 20,708, or 71·16 per cent. Moreover, the number of men liable increased from 29,099 in 1886 to 30,294 in the year under review.

3. The system of labour centres was continued on the same lines as in 1886, and justified the anticipations contained in my report for that year; the number of men who worked at these centres being only 368 as against 599 in 1886. Experience had proved to those concerned the fact that a labour centre is not so comfortable as a regulation jail, and that it involves longer hours and the performance of more work. Such men accordingly either paid commutation or performed labour voluntarily in preference to being detained at a compulsory labour centre after the issue and execution of warrants.

4. In twelve cases only were defaulters committed to jail, the reason for the action in each instance being the desirability of avoiding all risk of escape. The number of men committed to jail in 1886 was 78, while in 1885 it had amounted to 838.

5. The amount collected in money as commutation was Rs. 35,796, as against Rs. 34,455 similarly received during the previous year. The value of labour exacted was Rs. 6,046·50; in 1886 it was Rs. 7,101. The balance of receipts in excess of expenditure on December 31 was Rs. 1,298·83. These figures are merely nominal, and only suffice to meet the liabilities of the Committee. Full particulars as to the disposal of both labour and money have already been furnished to the Provincial Road Committee.

6. A summary is annexed showing the procedure adopted during the year under review to recover money or enforce labour from the men liable :—

Number of men liable			30,294
Paid single rate	22,448		
Paid double rate	443		
		22,891	
Performed six days' labour	3,313		
Performed twelve days' labour	359		
Worked at compulsory labour centres	368		
		4,040	
Paid fine	...	265	
Committed to jail	...	12	
Exempted	637		
Sick	150		
In jail	44		
Deceased	176		
Double entries	40		
Ordained as Buddhist priests	2		
Paid or laboured elsewhere	473		
Absentees	1,564		
		3,086	
			30,294

7. Twenty-six miles of new roads were opened, 162 miles of old roads were maintained in fair order, and a considerable amount of work was done in cutting paths and clearing tracks across the country. The erection of a resthouse at Bulatkohopiṭiya and the reconstruction of that at Ruwanwęlla have received sanction, and will shortly be undertaken. A list of the old and new roads is annexed :—

Golahęla to Bulatkohopiṭiya
Dehiówiṭa to Panáwala
Warakapola to Ruwanwęlla
Galigomuwa to Ruwanwęlla
Karanduponé to Rambukkana
Máwanęlla to Alpiṭiya
Gewilipiṭiya to Héttimulla
Rambukkana to Katupiṭiya
Pitihume to Kalwána
Circular road
Kęgalla to Andiramada
Uandiwala to Talgahayaya
Utuwankanḍa to Ussapiṭiya
Veraké to Aranáyaka
Héttimulla to Ussapiṭiya
Yaṭṭégoḍa to Yatallawala
Deḍigama to Galapitamaḍa
Ampé to Bulatkohópiṭiya
Kaḍigomuwa to Molagoḍa
Rambukkana towards Galagedara
Glenalla towards Kellie
Stoneaston to Kitulgala
Ruwanwęlla to Attanagalla
Mipiṭiya to Raddola-ęla
Kurunduhinné to Nandiwala
Kurunduhinné to Nilwakka (viá Nágolla)
Pussęlla to Siyambalápiṭiya
Golahęla to Walagama
Anguruwella to Welimannatoṭa
Veraké to Aranáyaka
Alakoladeniya to Bukendawatta
Polatagama to Maskeliya
Ruwanwęlla towards Attanagalla

8. Briefly, the history of the administration of the Ordinance during 1887 is as follows :—On March 1, 7,868 men out of a total of 30,294, remained for disposal. Of these, 5,161, or 65·59 per cent., were dealt with in the succeeding four months, and at the end of the first half-year only 8 per cent. of the total number liable remained for disposal.

9. During the second half-year the accounts were finally settled without the overpressure of work which was involved in 1886, and with the results which have been detailed in the preceding paragraphs of this report.

F. H. PRICE,
Chairman.

NEGOMBO DISTRICT.

THE subjoined statement gives particulars of the number of men liable to perform labour in the District during the year, and the result of the working of the Ordinance :—

	Men.	Percentage.
1 Shown in return prepared under section 3	25,306 ...	100
2 Noticed to labour under section 13	2,559 ...	10
3 Performed labour do.	230 ...	9
4 Noticed to perform double labour under section ...	2,220 ...	8
5 Responded to notice under section 14	17 ...	6
6 Punished under section 15	— ...	—
7 Exempted under section 7	351 ...	1
8 Arrested under section 16	281 ...	1
9 Found guilty and sent to imprisonment, section 18 ...	74 ...	2
10 Found guilty and fined, section 18	26 ...	1
11 Amount of fines recovered	Rs. 427 ...	—
12 Commuted single labour under section 25	22,616 ...	89
13 Value of above	Rs. 33,924 ...	—
14 Commuted double labour	232 ...	9
15 Value of above	Rs. 696 ...	—
16 The difference, remaining unarrested on December 31, 1887 ...	986 ...	4

2. As compared with 1886, the most noteworthy points are the increase in the percentage of the men who commuted at the single rate and the decrease in the percentage of the number of warrants issued, and also the decrease in the number of warrants remaining unarrested, namely 986, as compared with 1,960 in 1886.

3. The collection of the tax was taken away from the vidáne árachchies and given to the petty headmen as an experiment in Alutkúru kóralé, and the result was very satisfactory. It is proposed to try the same in Hápitigam kóralé in 1889.

4. The apportionment of the tax and labour for 1887 are given in the following statement :—

	No. of Men.	Value Rs.	c.
Probable number of men liable to labour ...	23,836 ...	—	
For principal works, four-ninths ...	10,592 ...	15,888	0
For minor works	5,296 ...	7,944	0
Exemption from tax, pay of establishment, commission to division officers, and other charges, three-ninths	7,948 ...	11,922	0

5. The seventy-eight miles of roads in charge of the District Road Committee and the rest-houses in the District were maintained in efficient order during the year.

6. No new roads have been undertaken during the year by the District Road Committee. During the present year it is contemplated to undertake the improvement of an old and useful road from Dúnagaha to Godigomuwa.

7. The work of providing the minor roads in the District with permanent culverts was undertaken, and some have been completed satisfactorily, and others are being constructed by contract.

8. It has been decided to build a new resthouse at Godigomuwa, a village ten miles on the Negombo-Giriulla principal road. A magnificent site on the top of a hill has been chosen, and the work will soon be given on contract.

9. Owing to the extension of the Local Board limits there was a loss to the District Road Committee of about 4,000 men, but even with this loss payment was better than in 1886.

EVAN MABERLY BYRDE,
Chairman.

KALUTARA DISTRICT.

THE revenue for the year amounted to Rs. 49,685·55. The revenue in 1885 was Rs. 49,666·58.

153 miles of minor roads were kept up by the Committee at a cost of Rs. 18,268·70, which includes the cost of eighteen bridges with masonry abutments and iron rail joists from 15 to 17 ft. span.

58½ miles of toll grant roads were maintained at a cost of Rs. 7,003·86.

19½ miles of new roads were opened in 1887.

The work of clearing the Maguru-gaṇga, which was begun in 1886, was completed in 1887.

The minor road from Nāgoda to Tebuwana was taken over by the Public Works Department. It had been put into good order by the Committee before its transfer.

ROAD TAX.

The number of men appearing in the division officers' lists for 1887 was 39,057. I annex a comparative statement for the years 1885, 1886, and 1887 :—

	1885.	1886.	1887.
Number of men liable ...	38,101 ...	38,915 ...	39,057
Paid at single rate ...	23,998 ...	24,090 ...	24,011
Paid at double rate ...	1,514 ...	1,844 ...	832
Laboured 6 days ...	2,408 ...	1,326 ...	4,164
Do. 12 days ...	391 ...	580 ...	196
Do. 24 days ...	— ...	447 ...	121
Fined	1 ...	2 ...	3
Committed to jail ...	142 ...	41 ...	59
Exempted, &c. ...	2,375 ...	5,934 ...	5,179
Absentees, &c. ...	585 ...	3,071 ...	4,148
Number of warrants issued ...	8,393 ...	8,949 ...	6,752
Outstanding on December 31...	6,687 ...	1,580 ...	344

It will be seen that there were very few warrants outstanding at the end of 1887 as compared with 1885 and 1886, and the 344 men against whom warrants were outstanding have since been accounted for. The great majority of the headmen made return to their warrants within the year, but one or two peace officers were very remiss. The headman of Kuḍá Waskaḍuwa had 54 warrants in his hands unaccounted for at the end of the year; he has since being dismissed.

There can be no question that the large number of "non-effectives" in the Kalutara District is due in great measure to the fact that the population of the maritime districts is constantly shifting; yet I doubt whether any large proportion escape their liability. If the figures for the whole Island are examined, it will be seen that there is a very trifling percentage of defaulters. According to the latest returns of the Registrar-General, the population of the Island is about 2,800,000. From this total has to be deducted 400,000 for Tamil immigrant labourers and inhabitants of Municipalities and Local Boards in order to arrive at the population within the jurisdiction of the District Road Committees. One-fifth of this total (2,400,000), that is 480,000, should be liable to tax. On examining the returns of the various Committees, however, it appears that some 530,000 people are on their lists. Very nearly 450,000 men of these have discharged their liability either by payment, by labour, by fine, or imprisonment. This leaves only 30,000 men to be accounted for, if the total were 480,000; and of the 30,000 a very large percentage must have been exempted for illness. The figures given under the head "Exemptions" by various Committees cannot be followed, as they include persons over 55 and under 18, who, strictly speaking, should not be "exempted" but excluded from the lists as not liable.

The fact that there are 530,000 instead of 480,000 men on the Committees' lists, shows that a very large number of men are entered in more than one District. For instance, there may be 20 men on the Kalutara division officers' lists whose names also appear in the Ratnapura lists. Possibly 10 pay in one place and 10 in the other, yet both Districts show ten men in default or non-effective. This of course would be an extreme case, but it shows that a large number of seeming defaulters may have fulfilled their obligations, and accounts for the surplus on the division officers' lists.

The most satisfactory feature in the working of the Ordinance last year was the large number of men who worked. They were principally engaged on new roads, and a large mileage was added during the year. It will, I fear, be found difficult to maintain them in fair order, now that so large a sum has been appropriated out of the funds of the Committee for principal roads. This year 76,893 days' labour, equivalent to Rs. 19,223·25, will have to be deducted from the commutation at the disposal of the Committee instead of 42,800 days, value Rs. 10,700, which was the sum voted for 1887.

H. L. CRAWFORD,
Chairman.

Kalutara, March 13, 1888.

Revenue raised and appropriated under the authority of the Thoroughfares Ordinances, Nos. 10 of 1861 and 31 of 1884, in the Western Province.

PROVINCIAL ROAD COMMITTEE.

REVENUE.	Rs.	c.
Balance on January 1, 1887 ...	11,355	82
Resthouse funds: contribution from District Committees	20,413	67
Principal works: contribution from District Committees	44,824	30
Total grant: Government contribution on account of toll grant, &c. ...	22,350	40
Miscellaneous	2,664	88
Total ...	101,609	7

EXPENDITURE.	Rs.	c.
Resthouse funds: amount expended for upkeep, repair, and improvement of resthouses...	14,181	59
Principal works: amount remitted to Director of Public Works ...	44,006	50
Toll grant: apportioned to District Committies	22,399	3
Establishment: amount expended ...	2,303	30
Miscellaneous	1,350	47
Balance ...	17,368	18
Total ...	101,609	7

DISTRICT ROAD COMMITTEE, COLOMBO.

REVENUE.	Rs.	c.
Balance on January 1, 1887 ...	18,420	90
Commutation realised in money ...	74,489	0
Do. in labour ...	7,612	50
Miscellaneous receipts	2,267	87
Government contribution in aid of minor works	9,324	19
Total ...	112,114	46

EXPENDITURE.	Rs.	c.
Amount paid and labour expended on account of principal roads, resthouses, and canals	36,099	0
Amount expended on minor works in money	25,420	40
Do. do. in labour	7,612	50
Salaries of establishment, commission to division officers, &c.	12,979	77
Pay of resthouse-keepers	1,254	0
Miscellaneous charges	10,834	62
	95,200	29
Balance ...	17,914	17
Total ...	112,114	46

DISTRICT ROAD COMMITTEE, RATNAPURA.

REVENUE.	Rs.	c.
Balance on January 1, 1887 ...	3,573	99
Commutation realised in money ..	22,497	0
Do. in labour ...	5,374	0
Resthouse collections	1,554	36
Miscellaneous receipts	6,577	75
Government contribution in aid of minor works	830	0
Total ...	40,407	10

EXPENDITURE.	Rs.	c.
Amount expended on account of principal roads, resthouses, and canals, in money...	9,294	50
Do. do. in labour...	2,034	0
Amount expended on minor works, in money	7,376	94
Do. do. in labour	3,340	0
Repairs to resthouses, &c. ...	1,107	10
Salaries of establishment, commission to division officers, &c.	5,715	74
Pay of resthouse-keepers	1,425	0
Miscellaneous charges	7,514	82
	37,808	10
Balance ...	2,599	0
Total ...	40,407	10

DISTRICT ROAD COMMITTEE, KEGALLA.

REVENUE	Rs.	c.
Balance on January 1, 1887 ...	6,843	35
Commutation realised in money ...	35,802	0
Do. in labour ...	6,081	0
Resthouse collections	649	13
Miscellaneous receipts	7,258	47
Government contribution in aid of minor works	8,830	27
Total ...	65,464	22

EXPENDITURE.	Rs.	c.
Amount paid and labour expended on account of principal roads, resthouses, and canals	18,774	0
Amount expended on minor works, including Government grant, in money ...	21,397	7
Do. in labour ...	5,971	50
Repairs to resthouses, in money ...	1,164	60
Do. in labour ...	109	50
Salaries of establishment and commission to division officers, &c.	8,195	69
Pay of resthouse-keepers, &c. ...	970	0
Miscellaneous charges	6,681	39
	63,263	75
Balance ...	2,200	47
Total ...	65,464	22

DISTRICT ROAD COMMITTEE, NEGOMBO.

REVENUE.	Rs.	c.
Balance on January 1, 1887 ...	30,241	16
Commutation realised in money ...	34,730	0
Do. in labour ...	396	0
Resthouse collections	385	58
Miscellaneous	251	47
Government contribution in aid of minor works	1,610	0
Total ...	67,614	21

EXPENDITURE.	Rs.	c.
Amount paid and labour expended on account of principal roads, resthouses, and canals	15,888	0
Amount expended on minor works in money	7,510	10
Do. do. in labour	396	0
Repairs to resthouses, &c.	447	53
Salaries to establishment, commission to division officers, &c.	7,360	78
Pay of resthouse-keepers	443	0
Miscellaneous charges	6,755	96
	38,801	37
Balance ...	28,812	84
Total ...	67,614	21

DISTRICT ROAD COMMITTEE, KALUTARA.

REVENUE.	Rs.	c.
Balance on January 1, 1887 ...	8,025	6
Commutation realised in money ...	39,254	50
Do. in labour ...	8,355	0
Resthouse collections	713	5
Miscellaneous	3,840	17
Government contribution in aid of minor works	7,120	0
Total ...	67,307	78

EXPENDITURE.	Rs.	c.
Amount expended on account of principal roads, resthouses, and canals, in money	15,200	0
Do. do. in labour	81	0
Amount expended on minor works in money	16,998	56
Do. do. in labour	8,274	0
Repairs to resthouses	986	2
Salaries of establishment, commission to division officers, &c.	14,297	6
Pay of resthouse-keepers	711	50
Miscellaneous charges	2,017	51
	58,565	65
Balance ...	8,742	13
Total ...	67,307	78

CENTRAL PROVINCE.

THE following percentage statement shows the working of the new Ordinance during the last three years:—

	Percentage on Number liable for one Year.		
	1885.	1886.	1887.
Paid single rate	62	62	73·99
Worked six days	17	16	4·85
Paid double rate	3	7	5·16
Worked twelve days	·70	·32	·50
Imprisoned and fined	2	1	1
Exempted	3	5	3
Absentees, dead, &c.	10	7	10
Unaccounted for	3	2	1

It will be seen that there has been a large increase in the number of men who have paid at single rates. This is probably in some degree due to the adoption of the Committee's suggestion that defaulters committed to prison should be employed solely in breaking metal. On the other hand, I regret that the number of absentees has risen to 10 per cent. There is always a large floating population in the bazaars and on estates in planting districts, whom it is difficult to bring to account. I am glad to see that the planters have taken the matter up and are co-operating with the Committee in their endeavours to enforce the Ordinance.

WORK DONE IN 1887.

There are in charge of this Road Committee, exclusive of planters' roads—

	Miles.
Cart roads	52
Bridlepaths	112
Footpaths	64
Total ...	228

In addition to the ordinary upkeep of roads the following works were carried out:—

Gaimal-oya to Bintenna.—Two iron bridges, one 12 ft. and the other 17 ft. span, were put up between the 5th and 7th miles. This road is now open for wheeled traffic as far as the 7th mile. The road requires to be widened, and some earthwork is necessary in places to complete it up to the 10th mile. From the 10th mile to Wéragantota, the boundary of the Province, it is a bridlepath.

Urugala to Rangalla.—Handrails were put up across these large streams for the protection of travellers during floods.

Embilmegama to Alagalla.—Fourteen culverts were constructed. This road is an important one, as it passes through the most extensive villages in Yatinuwara, and taps the Alagalla, Kirimetiya, and other estates at its terminus. It is gradually being converted into a road for wheeled traffic.

Galagedara to Hinabówa.—A 17-ft. span iron bridge was constructed over the Rangoma-oya.

Galagedara to Kobbékaduwa.—One mile and 20 chains of this bridlepath were converted into a 10-ft. wide cart road.

Ginigathéna to Maskeliya Valley.—The first three fourths of a mile of this footpath were converted into a tavalam road an iron bridge, 21 ft. span, was put up over the Maskeli-ganga, and the road was made rideable as far as Arslena estate. Some three miles remain to be cut as far as the Maskeli-ganga, a bridge over which is much needed. The road is an important one in connection with the Kelani forest reserve.

Wattégama to Andayama.—A bridle road from Wattégama railway station to Andayama, a distance of two miles, where it joins the old road from Kandy to Mátalé, was constructed.

Gampola to Paranapaṭṭiya.—The first three miles have been completed, and can be used for wheeled traffic. There remains a little more than two miles to be completed to the junction of the road with the Kaḍugannáwa-Paranapaṭṭiya road.

Kaṇugastota to Haloluwa.—The road has been widened, but a bridge over the Galédanda-ela and culverts are required to render it passable by wheeled traffic.

Léwella ferry to Madawala.—This road was in parts gravelled during 1887.

Planters' roads.—A sum of Rs. 1,627·75 was voted towards fifteen roads in the planting districts, to the upkeep of which the planters also contribute.

M. S. CRAWFORD,
for Chairman.

District Road Committee,
Kandy, April 4, 1888.

MA'TALE' DISTRICT.

1 ANNEX a comparative percentage statement showing the working of the Ordinance during the past year :—

	Percentage to Amount Due. 1886.	1887.
Paid single rate	72·23	77·72
Worked six days	10·74	4·35
Paid double rate	2·37	3·65
Worked double	·85	·50
Worked in labour centre	—	·51
Imprisoned and fined	·53	·43
Exempted	5·44	7·57
Absentees, and paid elsewhere, &c.	7·57	5·17
Balance	·27	·10

This return appears to show a satisfactory and steady, though not a sensationally rapid improvement in the working of the Ordinance.

The increase in the single-rate payments and the decrease under the head "Absentees" are encouraging. On the other hand, the exemptions have risen, and the percentage appears to be much too high. It will be considerably decreased in 1888. The single-rate payments for 1888 already show an advance on 1887—an advance that would have been far more marked, were it not for the extreme distress and scarcity of food which prevails in Mátalé North, and has left the people of that division practically penniless.

Towards the middle of 1887 a system of labour centres was established in place of sending defaulters to jail. The system works admirably, and with a little further development will work better still. There is no doubt that it is far more deterrent : defaulters would much rather go to a comfortable jail with its many attractions, than be turned out to a distant labour centre which has no such attractions.

WORK DONE IN 1887.

The following is a statement of minor works carried out by the District Road Committee during 1887 :—

Name.	Remarks.
Mátalé streets (town)	Partly gravelled, ruts and holes repaired, side and scupper drains opened and jungle cleared.
Bandárapola road	Jungle and drains cleared, paved the two side approaches to the river, two platform bridges made over drains, and the road thoroughly put in order and opened as a bridle path.
Hulaṇgamuwa road	Jungle and drains cleared and scupper drains opened.
Balakaḍuwa road	Partly gravelled, ruts and holes filled up, jungle and drains cleared, and scupper drains opened.
Eṭipola road	General upkeep as a bridle path.
Elkaḍuwa road	Jungle and drains cleared.
Wáriyapola road	General upkeep as a cart road.
Biridewále road	General upkeep as a cart road to the gap.
Kalalpiṭiya road	Jungle and drains cleared.
Elwala road	A quarter of a mile metalled, drains and jungle cleared.
Ukuwela to Etgála and Hunasgiriya	Jungle and drains cleared, and general upkeep.
Tenna and Owilikanda roads	Jungle and drains cleared and stumps rooted, road thoroughly repaired and made passable for horses.
Yaṭawatta road	General upkeep as a cart and carriage road.
Dulléwe and Divilla roads	Drains and jungle cleared.
Ulpotupiṭiya bridge	Partly new planks put in.
Nágolla cooly lines	General upkeep.
Rotalewewa cooly lines	Do.
Kayikawala to Kongahawela	Jungle cleared and drains partly cleared.
Kayikáwala to Kabaragala	Jungle cleared and made passable for horses.
Wáriyapola to Gal-oya road	Gravelled and thoroughly repaired, jungle and drains cleared.
Rattoṭa to Hembaráwa	Jungle cleared and drains partly cleared.
Gal-oya bridge	Thoroughly repaired with new planks.
Upkeep of bungalows	Yaṭawatta bungalow thoroughly repaired, and the rest upkeep.
Sigiriya road	General repair, jungle and drains cleared.
Galewela road	Jungle and drains cleared, put up a strong masonry wall at Kawattaamuna culvert to prevent landships and damaging the culvert.
Wéragama to Bandárapola	Jungle cleared and drains opened.
Diyabubula road	Do. do.

Of these the most important are—

(1) *Bandárapola road.*—This was formerly a mere footpath, practically impassable in bad weather and not kept up by the Committee. But it was a very convenient footpath for planters

and villagers coming into Mátalé from the neighbourhood of Hangarapola. Accordingly the Committee took it in hand, put up two platform bridges over the ela, paved both sides of the road across the Sudu-gaṇga, and made the road thoroughly practicable for men and horses in all weathers.

(2) *Elwela road.*—This was a mere bridle path almost entirely overgrown. But there has been a large demand for land in the neighbourhood of Ukuwela station, for tea planting purposes; consequently it was thought advisable to put the road into good repair for carts; and the first quarter of a mile, which passes through swampy ground, was thickly and permanently metalled.

(3) *Tenna to Owilikanda road.*—This is practically a new road, having been nothing but the roughest of village paths hitherto. It is an important road, running along the boundary and tapping several large villages. It has been put into thorough repair for horses.

(4) *Yaṭawatta road.*—A dangerous crack and subsidence was discovered just in time in one of the largest culverts on this road, and the culvert was virtually rebuilt.

(5) *Wáriyapola to Gal-oya.*—This is practically a new road, having been but a hazy track hitherto. It has become important owing to the opening up of tea land in the neighbourhood. It has been put into passable order for carts: a culvert built at the Wáriyapola end, and a stout platform bridge erected at Gal-oya.

No vote was allowed for the Galawela road in 1887, which I venture to consider a great pity, as the work has been hanging fire for a long time, and the road will be more necessary than ever when the tanks at the northern end of the road are restored. Consequently the work done upon it has been chiefly general upkeep. A strong masonry wall was built at Kawata amuna to prevent damage by wash down the steep bank there.

A serious loss was incurred on this road by the total destruction of the bridge, which was almost completed, at Kirioruwa, by the heavy rains of December. This bridge has been a sorry failure from start to finish, chiefly owing, apparently, to the dishonesty and incompetence of the contractors employed. It showed signs of cracking before it was half completed, and steps were taken to strengthen it with wing walls and under-pinning, but the rising of the river in December washed the whole structure away like a pack of cards, and it was then obvious how utterly rotten the masonry and brickwork were from start to finish. A small portion of the central pier remains, and this will be utilised this year for the erection of a temporary platform bridge, as it will be some time before the Committee will be able to spend another large sum on a brick structure.

The question of the superintendence of minor works has occupied the attention of the Committee a good deal. Hitherto there has been no superintendent, the Assistant Government Agent doing all the work with the help of overseers. But this plan is open to the objection that the Assistant Government Agent has far too much revenue work to do to give constant attention to works in progress; that all Assistant Government Agents may not have the same *penchant* for, and experience of, road work that was the characteristic of the late Assistant Government Agent; and that unless culverts, bridges, and roads in course of construction are constantly under scientific supervision, they are certain to end in failure and waste of money.

The best plan would probably be to entrust the superintendence to the District Engineer, as is done with success in the North-Central Province. Unfortunately, the Director of Public Works does not approve of it in this District. Such an arrangement would be an important step towards placing a great deal of the District Road Committee work in the hands of the Public Works Department altogether, and towards the gradual elimination of the District Road Committees generally. The anomaly of the present state of affairs hardly needs dwelling on. The Assistant Government Agent is of course expected to have a thorough knowledge of the country, its characteristics, needs, and peculiarities. But it does not follow that he has had a scientific training in bridge building, culvert making, and road construction—in fact, there is the strongest inference against his possessing such knowledge; yet he is entrusted solely with the making of an important thoroughfare (such as the Akuramboḍa road, for instance) while there is a District Engineer on the spot, constantly passing close by it, whose whole time has been passed at such work, and who has all the rates, quantities, &c., at his fingers' ends. The result must be two-fold: unremunerative waste of the Assistant Government Agent's time, and unintentional, but certain, waste of public money. If the Committee could afford a really good salary to a first-class superintendent, matters would be better, but it cannot; and even if it could, it would still be a waste of money to have two engineers in the place, drawing Rs. 6,000 (say) per annum, while one could do the work on Rs. 4,500.

It surely is high time that more attention was paid to ambalams for the use of native travellers. At present the only work done upon them is done by the more or less forced labour of the people themselves. Yet as one-third of the total road tax collection of the District is put into resthouses for European travellers, it seems very hard that ambalams should not be put on something of the same footing. The allowance for resthouses might very fairly be reduced and the balance spent yearly on the repair of old ambalams and the construction of new ones.

PROGRAMME FOR 1888.

(1) Government has allowed a small vote for the Galawela road for 1888. The Committee has supplemented it by as large a sum as they can possibly spare, and there is some chance of completing the road by the end of 1889, if a similar vote is allowed that year. It is still a question whether the last portion of the road from Meḍabeḍda should not run to Beligomuwa rather than to Galawela. The trace to Galawela is extremely precipitous and rocky, and will be a constant source of expense as a cart road.

(2) The Committee intend to pay special attention to, and spend additional money on, the various roads in the neighbourhood of Ukuwela station, as that station has now been opened for goods traffic, and as land is being rapidly opened up in tea all around it. These roads are the Kalalpiṭiya road, the Etgala road, the Hunasgiriya road, the Gal-oya road, and the Elkaḍuwa road.

(3) It is intended to take in hand the dangerous crossing of the Rattoṭa river, which is a serious bar to the planters and villagers of Dankanda and Laggala, and to erect a wire bridge there passable in all weathers for laden coolies.

(4) A new trace is to be cut for certain parts of the Kumbaloluwa-Kongahawela road, which are now barely passable for tavalams, and are worn too deep to be repaired.

(5) A new trace will be cut in co-operation with the manager of Kawuḍupeḷella estate, to connect Yaṭawatta with Mahawela on the Akuramboḍa road, the present trace being quite impracticable.

(6) There are two roads badly wanted, which are beyond the means of this Committee: (*a*) an extension of the present Kandanuwara cart road through Dambulugala to meet the Kęlębokka road just beyond the Kabaragala gap; (*b*) the repair of part of the old Midlands road and the extension of it, as a cart road, up to Kattaratęnna. It is hoped that these roads will either be taken up on the grant-in-aid system, or that a suggestion, already sent in to Government officially from this Kachchéri, will be adopted, and a light tramway on the Lartigue system substituted for a road.

(7) The necessity for an outlet for Mátalé East was repeatedly and ably urged by Mr. Moysey. It obviously can take only one course, viz., from Pallégama to Kalu-gaṇga, twelve miles, and from thence to Ęlahęra, eight miles, whence there is already a fair-weather cart road to Náula on the North road. But the Committee are of opinion that it is a road which should be carefully laid out by an experienced road officer, and that a grant should be allowed by Government yearly towards its construction. It is to be hoped that this will receive the early attention of Government, as the only hope of transforming Mátalé East into a populous and prosperous district is by means of such an outlet.

District Road Committee's Office,
Mátalé, March 17, 1888.

S. M. BURROWS,
Chairman.

NUWARA ELIYA DISTRICT.

THE working of the Thoroughfares Ordinance during the year 1887 was very satisfactory.

A much large number paid the road tax than in any previous year, and the number of those who performed labour was consequently smaller.

Annexed is a comparative statement of the progress of the work :—

	1886.	1887.
Men liable to labour	10,187 ...	11,736
Paid single rate	6,132 ...	8,068
Paid double rate	1,127 ...	803
Men worked	1,500 ...	546
Exemptions	213 ...	205
Imprisoned and fined	206 ...	105
Deaths, paid elsewhere, &c.	204 ...	256
Absentees	805 ...	1,753

The large number of absentees was due to the floating population of the planting districts, and to the fact that in taking over the names from the lists of 1886, many names of absentees were included in the lists of 1887.

The whole of the labour was called out on the principal roads, and though a great deal of trouble was thereby incurred in attempting to enforce the Public Works Department tasks on the labourers, still the work was not thrown away, as it will serve to induce people in future to commute instead of electing to perform labour.

The works of importance undertaken during 1887 were :—

A new resthouse at Paṭṭipola on the Blackpool to Haputalé road.

A bridge over the Kotmalé river, at Halweltoṭa, and another over the Bilihul-oya at Rambukpota.

I annex a list of the minor roads and the amounts spent on each :—

	Rs.	c.
Pundalu-oya to Męḍakumbura ...	48	61
Pussęlláwa to Náwalapiṭiya ...	132	50
Beramana to Nayinkolinatoṭa ...	160	0
Pundalu-oya to Pussęlláwa ...	120	0
Hęlboḍa to Maswela	120	0
Kahaṭapiṭiya to Pine Hill ...	74	9
The Edinburgh Bridge ...	5	25
Nuwara Eliya—Horton Plains ...	698	43
Ramboḍa—Maturaṭa ...	85	0
Nuwara Eliya—Pundalu-oya ...	410	74
Tillicoultry—Agrapatana ...	100	0
Koskabala-ęla road ...	12	0
Horton Plains—Agrapatana ...	200	0
Queenwood Gap ...	100	0
Mount Vernon—Niagara ...	30	0
Annfield Gap ...	150	0
Agrapatana—Bópatalawa ...	200	0
Nildaṇḍahinna—Súriyagahapatana ...	49	0
Kurundu-oya—Pannala, and Lower Badulla road ...	72	0
Mahakudagala Ford bridge ...	212	72
Nildaṇḍahinna—Kurundu-oya ...	60	0
Kandapola to Rágala ...	118	40
Kurundu-oya to Maha Uva ...	77	50
Nildaṇḍahinna to Halgarannáwa ...	175	40
Baṇḍárammuwa road and bridge ...	76	25
Moon Plains to Uḍahawara ...	35	0
Pedro Estate to Uḍahawara ...	30	0
Moon Plains to Buluhala ...	20	0
Kandapola to Malapola ...	35	0
Maturaṭa to Uḍa Pussęlláwa ...	173	40
Waḍuwawala bridge ...	70	0
Mandaranuwara to Maturaṭa ...	111	0
Elamulla to Pádiyapęlęlla ...	321	48
Maturaṭa to Pádiyapęlęlla ...	80	62
Ampiṭigoḍa bridge ...	200	0
Gonapiṭiya to Mandaranuwara ...	80	0
Leanwęlla to Pádiyapęlęlla ...	85	0
Węlageria to Waduwawala ..	30	0
Karadagolla to Makaruppé ...	55	0
Maturaṭa to Waduwawala ...	35	0
Rahatungoḍa to Devika ...	20	0
Munwatta to Rikiligaskaḍa ...	20	0
Dehipé to Amunamulla ...	40	0
Kandapola to Maturaṭa ...	157	38
Mudunapiṭiya to Ilagolla ...	82	0
Haṇguranketa to Unantęnna ...	55	0
Haṇguranketa to the Lower Badulla road	70	0
Haṇguranketa to the Maha-oya ...	35	0
Haṇguranketa to Boralęssa ...	12	50
Galauda to Makaruppé ...	75	0
Edaṇḍa over the Dara-oya ...	20	0
Kitulpé Beri-ęla ...	10	0
Ferry-boat at Nayinkelinatoṭa ...	80	0
Repair of Pundalu-oya bridge ...	20	0
Seaton to Uda Pussęlláwa ...	60	0
Kurundu-oya to St. John's estate ...	25	0
Mandaranuwara to Pidrutalágala ...	40	0
Nildaṇḍahinna bungalow ...	33	25
Bingantalawa to Glendevon ...	18	0
Denika to Ekeriya ...	100	0
Nuwara Eliya to Pidrutalágala ...	25	50
Nildaṇḍahinna to Maha Uva ...	22	0
Bolagandéwala to Ambawęlla ...	12	0
Pidrutalágala to Wilkada ...	50	0
Lady Horton's and Kikiliyamana ...	112	70
Several small minor works ...	38	67
	6,083	19

District Road Committee,
Nuwara Eliya, March 26, 1888.

C. J. R. LE MESURIER,
Chairman.

Revenue raised and appropriated under the authority of the Thoroughfares Ordinances, Nos. 10 of 1861 and 31 of 1884, in the Central Province.

KANDY DISTRICT.

REVENUE.	Rs.	c.
Balance on January 1, 1887 ...	14,155	56
Commutation realised in money ...	44,718	10
Do in labour ...	2,792	50
Resthouse collections, &c	1,484	62
Miscellaneous receipts	3	99
Government contribution in aid of minor works	600	0
Unexpended two-thirds commutation ...	726	54
Total ...	64,481	31

EXPENDITURE.	Rs.	c.
Amount expended on account of principal roads, resthouses, and canals, in money	11,707	0
Do. do. in labour	675	0
Amount expended on minor works in money	13,980	17
Do. do. in labour	2,117	50
Repairs to resthouses, &c	899	26
Salaries of establishment, commission to division officers, &c.	17,166	15
Pay of resthouse-keepers	1,352	50
Miscellaneous charges	206	53
	48,104	11
Balance ...	16,377	20
Total ...	64,481	31

MÁTALÉ DISTRICT.

REVENUE.	Rs.	c.
Balance on January 1, 1887 ...	5,398	66
Commutation realised in money ...	18,546	0
Do. in labour ...	1,180	50
Resthouse collections	1,200	50
Miscellaneous receipts	28	73
Unexpended two-thirds commutation ...	50	16
Total ...	26,404	55

EXPENDITURE.	Rs.	c.
Amount expended on account of principal roads, resthouses, and canals, in money	5,573	50
Do. do. in labour	568	50
Amount expended on minor works in money	6,955	56
Do. do. in labour	612	0
Repairs to resthouses, &c.... ...	1,099	47
Salaries of establishment, commission to division officers, &c.	4,794	73
Pay of resthouse-keepers	670	13
Miscellaneous charges	153	35
	20,427	24
Balance ...	5,977	31
Total ...	26,404	55

NUWARA ELIYA DISTRICT.

REVENUE.	Rs.	c.
Balance on January 1, 1887 ...	16,085	59
Commutation realised in money ...	14,764	25
Do. in labour ...	920	0
Unexpended two-thirds commutation ...	14	99
Total ...	31,784	83

EXPENDITURE.	Rs.	c.
Amount expended on account of principal roads, resthouses, and canals, in money	2,260	0
Do do. in labour	920	0
Amount expended on minor works in money	12,024	44
Repairs to resthouses, &c. ...	1,035	60
Salaries of establishment, commission to division officers, &c.	6,130	31
Pay of resthouse-keepers	47	50
Miscellaneous charges	315	11
	22,732	96
Balance ...	9,051	87
Total ...	31,784	83

NORTHERN PROVINCE.

THE Throughfares Ordinance has during 1887 worked very satisfactorily throughout the Northern Province. In the Jaffna District the division officers, except those of Delft, closed their accounts at single rates.

The number of persons imprisoned for default throughout the Province was in 1887, 10, as against 160 in 1886 and 320 in 1885. These ten defaulters were all from the Mullaittívu District.

THE COLLECTION OF COMMUTATION AND CALLING OUT FOR LABOUR.

The method of collection of commutation and calling out for labour was carried on strictly in accordance with the Ordinances. In the Jaffna District 584 men worked; of these, 569 were inhabitants of Delft. In Mullaittívu 309, and in Vavuṇiya-Vilâṇkulam 41 persons laboured.

Annexed is a statement showing the working of the Thoroughfares Ordinance No. 31 of 1884 during 1887 :—

	Jaffna.	Vavuniya-Vilánkulam.	Mullaittívu.	Mannár.
Men liable to labour	67,395	2,217	1,912	5,409
Paid commutation	60,690	2,092	1,408	5,266
Performed labour	584	41	309	—
Exempted	437	19	27	19
Imprisoned for default	—	—	10	—
Accounted for as dead, or paid elsewhere	2,832	35	70	43
Remaining in default	—	—	77	—
Balance unaccounted for	2,852	27	—	77
Fined Rs. 10 penalty	—	3	11	4

APPROPRIATION OF ONE-THIRD OF LABOUR AND MONEY.

The apportionment of the one-third available for minor roads for 1887 was almost entirely expended on the upkeep and improvement of the existing minor roads.

The construction of but one new road, in length 374 lineal yards, running at the back of the Jaffna Friend-in-Need hospital, was sanctioned by the Committee during the year, and commenced.

Upon well works Rs. 2,308·02 were expended throughout the Province.

For planting trees on roadsides Rs. 423·36 were expended.

Annexed is a statement showing the expenditure in detail by the Public Works Department and Provincial and District Road Committees throughout the year :—

Est. No.	Services.	Treasury Money. Rs. c.	Road Ordinance Money. Rs. c.	Total. Rs. c.
	Principal Roads.			
130	Roads within the gravets of Jaffna	1,976 16	3,651 27	5,627 43
131	Jaffna to Karativu	1,008 4	954 54	1,962 58
132	Jaffna to Kankesánturai	1,546 42	652 99	2,199 41
133	Jaffna to Point Pedro	1,089 89	1,799 96	2,889 85
134	Jaffna to Kodikamam	827 0	2,346 32	3,173 32
136	Kodikamam to Elephant Pass	—	3,760 96	3,760 96
137	Manippai to Kaitadi	380 34	699 90	1,080 24
140	Point Pedro to Punnalai	1,193 4	1,190 70	2,383 74
141	Point Pedro to Kodikamam	660 20	980 27	1,640 47
142	Jaffna to Punnalai	566 63	722 96	1,289 59
143	Puttúr to Kodikamam	480 34	690 32	1,170 66
145	Chemmani road, Jaffna	282 7	398 37	680 44
147	Vallai to Valuveḍḍitturai	132 63	187 30	319 93
148	Valukkiyaru to Kayts	142 0	464 21	606 21
127	Coast road from Jaffna towards Colombo	2,092 43	472 58	2,565 1
129	Elephant Pass to Puliyankulam	7,687 37	423 49	8,110 86
189	Boat channel, Jaffna lake	1,754 33	998 86	2,753 19
	Unexpended balance of votes of 1886	—	4,768 92	4,768 92
	Total	21,818 89	25,163 92	46,982 81
	Buildings.			
	Resthouse, Elephant Pass, of 1886	—	8 0	8 0
	For building a stable and coachhouse for the Elephant Pass resthouse	—	103 31	103 31
	Urgent and immediate repairs to the resthouses in the Province	—	3,399 97	3,399 97
	Total	—	3,511 28	3,511 28
	Minor Works.			
6	Kóṇḍávil-Irupálai road repair	—	291 67	291 67
7	Urumpirai road repair	—	946 24	946 24
8	Passaiúr cross roads repair	—	40 21	40 21
9	Navanturai cross roads repair	—	30 96	30 96
10	Roads in the town of Jaffna and Colomboturai, repair	—	695 72	695 72
11	Victoria road repair	—	571 72	571 72
12	Chaṇkanai-Vallai road repair	—	1,091 66	1,091 66
15	Chumagam-Puttúr road repair	—	314 59	314 59
16	Road from Návaṭkuli to Achchuvéli, upkeep	—	—	—
17	Máviḍḍapuram-Kírimalai road repair	—	178 34	178 34
18	Tellippalai-Kaḍḍuwán road repair	—	277 48	277 48
21	Achchelu road repair	—	87 73	87 73
34	Chuṇṇákam-Kanteróḍai road repair	—	191 78	191 78
25	Távaḍi-Chuṭumalai road repair	—	175 39	175 39
27	Road from Uḍuvil to Chaṇḍiruppái, upkeep	—	—	—
28	Road from Kaḍḍuwán to Tellippalai-Mayiliḍḍi, upkeep	—	—	—
29	Road from Mayiliḍḍi to Achchévéli, upkeep	—	—	—
30	Road from Alaveḍḍi (Kelisanthai) to Paṇḍatteruppu, upkeep	—	—	—
31	Road from Mallákam to Chiruppiḍḍi, upkeep	—	—	—
32	Múllai road upkeep	—	—	—
33	Punnalai road upkeep	—	—	—

	Services.	Treasury Money. Rs. c.	Road Ordinance Money. Rs. c.	Total. Rs. c.
34	Road from Mánippái to Vaḍḍukkóḍḍai, upkeep	— ...	— ...	—
35	Road from Paṇḍatteruppu to Samputurai, upkeep	— ...	— ...	—
38	Aráli-Mátakal road repair	— ...	580 44 ..	580 44
40	Chanḍiruppái-Pandatiruppu road repair	— ...	280 12 ...	280 12
41	Chanḍiruppái-Chantankalam road repair	— ...	138 56 ...	138 56
42	Múlai road repair ...	— ...	— ...	—
43	A'naikkoḍḍai-Vaḍḍukkóḍḍai road repair	— ...	284 53 ...	284 53
44	Punnálai road or road from Chulipuram to Punnálai repair	— ...	— ...	—
45	Chulipuram road	— ...	— ...	—
47	Drainage channel road repair ...	— ...	117 20 ...	117 20
48	Point Pedro market to Seashore road repair	— ...	32 88 ...	32 88
49	Alvái-Tunnálai road repair ...	— ...	520 17 ..	520 17
50	20th mile, Point Pedro, to Vallipuram temple road repair	— ...	185 60 ...	185 60
51	Point Pedro, 2nd Cross road repair ...	— ...	30 63 ...	30 63
52	Point Pedro, 3rd Cross road repair ...	— ...	23 54 ..	23 54
53	Point Pedro, 4th Cross road repair ...	— ...	12 86 ...	12 86
54	Roads in the town of Point Pedro repair	— ..	93 28 ...	93 28
55	19th mile, Point Pedro to Seashore road repair	— ...	171 90 ...	171 90
56	Malisantai-Uḍuppiḍḍi road repair ...	— ...	341 57 ...	341 57
58	Road from Point Pedro Customs to court-house, repair	— ...	96 0 ...	96 0
59	Tumpálai road repair	— ..	117 40 ...	117 40
63	Point Pedro east Coast road repair ...	— ...	333 23 ...	333 23
65	Road between Point Pedro across Kaḍḍaivéli road to Point Pedro-Koḍikámam road, repair	— ...	19 5 ...	19 5
71	Road from 20th mile, Point Pedro to Alvái, repair	— ...	74 88 ...	74 88
72	Road from Uḍupiḍḍi-Toṇḍaimannár, upkeep	— ...	— ...	—
73	Road from Point Pedro-Koḍikámam road to Vallipuram temple road, upkeep...	— ...	— ...	—
74	Road from Vallipuram temple to Pass Beshuter *viâ* Mukavil bazaar, upkeep	— ...	— ..	—
75	Road from Kaḍḍaivéli-Elutumaḍḍuval, upkeep	— ...	... ...	—
76	Michálai-Varaṇi road repair ...	— ...	461 72 ...	461 72
77	Chávakachchéri-Vempirai road repair ...	— ...	322 38 ...	322 38
78	Návetkuli-Tanankilappu road repair ...	— ...	563 97 ...	563 97
79	Koidkámam-Kachchai road repair ...	— ...	323 35 ...	323 35
80	Chavakachchéri-Kachchai road repair...	— ...	142 9 ...	142 9
81	Road from Kaitaḍi to Návetkuli, upkeep	— ...	— ...	—
82	Road from Chávakachchéri to Mantuvil through Michálai ...	— ...	— ...	—
83	Warburton's road, Chávakachchéri to Elephant Pass Beshuter, upkeep ...	— ...	54 49 .	54 49
84	Lake road repair	— ...	— ..	—
85	Road from Tavalai Iyaṭṭálai to Varaṇi, repair	— ...	— ...	—
86	Road from Kaḍḍavéli to Elutumaḍḍuval through Varaṇi, repair ...	— ...	— ...	—
87	Road from Elutumaḍḍuval to Palai, repair	— ...	— ...	—
88	Road from Koḍikámam to Elutumaḍḍuval, repair	— ...	— ...	—
89	Road from Vallipuram temple to Pass Beshuter *viâ* Mukavil Bazaar ...	— ...	— ...	—
95	Palai road construction	— ...	— ...	—
96	Road from 20th mile, Central road, to the Lake, upkeep	— ...	13 12 ...	13 12
97	Road from 21st mile, Central road, to the Lake, upkeep	— ...	14 79 ...	14 79
98	Marutankéṇi-Urvaṇikaṇṇattu road upkeep	— ...	8 55 ...	8 55
99	Marutankéṇi Palai-road	— ...	19 67 ...	19 67
100	Palai road repair	— ...	191 42 ...	191 42
103	Road from 21st mile, Central road, to Elutumaḍḍuvál, upkeep ...	— ...	— ...	—
104	Road from 22nd mile, Central road, to Lake, upkeep	— ...	— ...	—
108	Road from Mukavil to Urvaṇikaṇṇaṭṭu, upkeep	— ...	— ...	—
109	Road from Mukavil to Masapillayarkóvil, upkeep	— ...	— ...	—
110	Road from Karantai to Elephant Pass, upkeep	— ...	— ...	—
111	Road from Pass Beshuter to Elephant Pass, upkeep	— ...	37 92 ...	37 92
112	Road from Pass Beshuter to Pass Pyle, upkeep	— ...	32 82 ...	32 82
113	Road from Pass Beshuter to Chuṇḍikkulam, upkeep	— ...	— ...	—
114	Road from Yakkachchi to Pass Beshuter, upkeep	— ...	29 91 ...	29 91

	Services.	Treasury Money. Rs. c.	Road Ordinance Money. Rs. c.	Total. Rs. c.
117	Road from Karantai to Nedunkulam	—	—	—
118	Opening a road from Periyakulam to Putukkudiyiruppu	—	1,143 7	1,143 7
119	Road from Ulayarpalam to Kandávalai	—	10 0	10 0
120	Road from Kandávalai to Punnainirávi	—	20 0	20 0
121	Road from Murachumóḍḍai to Kandávalai	—	10 0	10 0
122	Road from Kandávalai to Vaḍḍakkachchi	—	10 0	10 0
123	Road from Vaḍḍakkachchi to Puliyampokkanai	—	20 0	20 0
124	Road from Periyakulam to Kandávalai	—	10 0	10 0
125	Road from Murachumóḍḍai to Parantan	—	26 0	26 0
126	Road from Karukkaitívu to Kavaikkulam	—	86 85	86 85
127	Road from Mandaikilar Manniyakulam to Chilliyavil	—	49 86	49 86
128	Road from Kandávalai to Parantan	—	—	—
129	Road from Kalmunai to Puneryn rest-house	—	—	—
130	Road from Vélanai to Punkudutívu, repair	—	247 57	247 57
131	Churuvil Kayts road repair	—	275 2	275 2
132	Vélanai Bungalow Kayts road, repair	—	195 5	195 5
133	St. James's Church road repair	—	—	—
138	Kárativu south road repair	—	—	—
139	Kárativu west road repair	—	73 70	73 70
140	Valantalai-Thankodai road repair	—	—	—
141	Analaitívu Central road repair	—	1 25	1 25
142	Road from Kandaswámikóvil to Náchchimárkóvil road, repair	—	—	—
145	Vélanai ferry Church road repair	—	136 81	136 81
146	Inupiḍḍi Kaliammánkóvil road repair	—	107 47	107 47
149	Nainativu east Coast road repair	—	167 6	167 6
150	Nainativu First Cross road repair	—	111 34	111 34
153	Deepening the channel at Mávillitturai	—	—	—
154	Mávellitturai south road upkeep	—	183 83	183 83
155	Tirtakkarai road upkeep	—	—	—
156	Vankálai south road upkeep	—	—	
157	Neluveni-Kaḍḍádumunai or Charapiddi road upkeep	—	—	—
158	Ittiyadi road upkeep	—	—	—
159	Well works in the Province	—	2,308 2	2,308 2
	For deepening and rebuilding the wells at Utiravankai and Iranamadu of 1886	—	15 76	15 76
	Cost of tools, &c.	354 84	—	354 84
		354 84	15,772 19	16,127 3
	MANNÁR.			
	Principal Roads.			
150	Yakkavai-Pésdai road	2,946 76	1,723 6	4,669 82
127	Coast road to Colombo	—	228 22	228 22
		2,946 76	1,951 28	4,898 4
	Minor Roads.			
	Mannár streets	—	100 0	100 0
	South Bar road	—	100 0	100 0
	Erukkalampiddi village road	—	300 0	300 0
	Talvapadu road	—	250 0	250 0
	Talaimannár village road	—	150 0	150 0
	Mileage clearing of Mannár Island	—	56 25	56 25
	Vidattaltívu road to Pallamadu well	—	449 99	449 99
	Mileage clearing in Mántaipattu road	—	221 25	221 25
	Vankalai village road	—	250 0	250 0
	Periya Alaṇkulam road	—	100 0	100 0
	Silavátturai to Anurádhapura	—	100 0	100 0
	Mileage clearing in Musalipattu	—	222 50	222 50
	Cost of tools	49 99	—	49 99
		49 99	2,299 99	2,349 98
	MULLAITTÍVU.			
	Principal Roads.			
	For Mullaittivu old road for 1886	—	281 87	281 87
	Do. do. for 1887	81 89	597 94	679 83
		81 89	879 81	961 70
	Minor Works.			
	Pay of boatman at Vaḍḍuvakallu	—	22 37	22 37
	Do. at Náyar	—	30 0	30 0
	Do. at Kókkulai	—	8 75	8 75
	For watering ornamental trees	—	67 50	67 50
	For superintending defaulters	—	130 75	130 75
	For extending road from Kókkuvil Vilakku to Tunnukkai	—	100 0	100 0
	For repairing bridge at Ampamam	—	10 0	10 0
	Cost of tools	49 10	—	49 10
		49 10	369 37	418 47

	Services.	Treasury Money. Rs. c.	Road Ordinance Money. Rs. c.	Total. Rs. c.
	VAVUNIYA-VILAṄKULAM.			
	Principal Roads.			
144	Puliyaṅkulam to Galkandamadu ...	4,231 37	888 86	5,120 23
	Minor Works.			
	Clearing jungle from Vavuṇiya-Vilaṅkulam to Periyan Alaṅkulam ...	—	110 0	110 0
	Puvarasaṅkulam to Paliayar ...	—	150 0	150 0
	Nelukkúlam to Rasantiraṅkulam ...	—	15 0	15 0
	Puvarasaṅkulam to Venkalaseddikulam	—	36 0	36 0
	Piráman Alaṅkulam to Mádu ...	—	45 0	45 0
	Mádu to Aravillu	—	20 0	20 0
	Omanthai to Marauluppai	—	30 0	30 0
	Marauluppai to Anantharpuliyaṅkulam	—	46 0	46 0
	Nainamadu to Anantharpuliyaṅkulam .	—	20 0	20 0
	Neduṅkéni to Kulaṅkulam ...	—	50 0	50 0
	Town roads	—	17 50	17 50
	Piraman Alaṅkulam to Mádu, earthwork	—	50 0	50 0
	Improving river approaches and roadway between Iranailuppaikulam and Ramiankulam	—	100 0	100 0
	Improving and gravelling boutique road	—	184 55	184 55
	Building culverts	—	125 0	125 0
	Upkeep works on the Circular roads in the town	—	15 90	15 90
	Cost of tools	46 7	—	46 7
		46 7	1,014 95	1,061 2

Abstract of Money Spent by the Public Works Department on Principal Roads, Buildings, and Well Works.

		Amount. Rs. c.	Total. Rs. c.
Jaffna ...	Treasury money ...	21,818 89	
	Road Ordinance money ...	25,163 92	46,982 81
Mannár ...	Treasury money ...	2,946 76	
	Road Ordinance money ...	1,951 28	4,898 4
Mullaittivu ...	Treasury money ...	81 89	
	Road Ordinance money ...	879 81	961 70
Vavuṇiya-Viláṅkulam ...	Treasury money ...	4,231 37	
	Road Ordinance money ...	888 86	5,120 23
Resthouse buildings from Road Ordinance funds	...	—	111 31
Well works from Road Ordinance funds	...	—	15 76
	Total ...	—	58,089 85

Abstract of Money Spent by the Provincial and District Road Committees on Minor Roads, Buildings, and Well Works.

		Amount. Rs. c.	Total. Rs. c.
Jaffna ...	Treasury money ...	354 84	
	Road Ordinance money ...	13,448 41	13,803 25
Mannár ...	Treasury money ...	49 99	
	Road Ordinance money ...	2,299 99	2,349 98
Mullaittívu ...	Treasury money ...	49 10	
	Road Ordinance money ...	369 37	418 47
Vavuṇiya-Viláṅkulam ...	Treasury money ...	46 7	
	Road Ordinance money ...	1,014 95	1,061 2
Resthouse repairs, &c., from Road Ordinance funds	...	—	3,399 97
Well works from Road Ordinance funds	...	—	2,308 2
	Total ...	—	23,340 71

Abstract of Total Money Spent.

		Amount. Rs. c.
By Public Works Department ...	...	—	58,089 85
By Provincial Road Committee ...	...	—	23,340 71
	Total ...	—	81,430 56

RESTHOUSES.

Upon upkeep and repairs to resthouses throughout the Province Rs. 3,400 (allowed in the Supply Bill for 1887) were expended.

GOVERNMENT GRANT.

Government allowed in 1887 Rs. 500 for cost of tools which the Committee apportioned as follows :—

	Rs.	c.
Jaffna	350	0
Mannár	50	0
Mullaittívu	50	0
Vavuṇiya-Viláṉkulam	50	0
	500	0

W. C. TWYNAM,
Chairman.

VAVUṆIYA-VILA'ṆKULAM DISTRICT.

THE total number of persons liable under the Ordinance, according to the division officers' lists, was 2,217, being 90 more than in the previous year (1886). 2,092 paid commutation (1,994 at the single rate of Re. 1·25 and 98 at the double rate of Rs. 2·50); 41 performed labour, whereas 1 only worked in 1886; 19 were exempted, and 35 were accounted for as dead, or as having paid elsewhere; 3 were fined Rs. 10 each, but none were imprisoned; and 27 were left unaccounted for at the end of the year.

Previous to 1886 the Committee received annually from Government a grant of Rs. 1,000 in aid of minor works and for the purchase of tools. It now receives only Rs. 50.

The funds at the disposal of the Committee are consequently so limited that they suffice for little more than keeping the existing roads clear of jungle at the rate of Rs. 5 per mile.

As regards the expenditure, the cost of working the Ordinance (*i. e.*, clerk's pay, commission to the division officers on their collections, stationery, &c.), amounted to Rs. 667. The contribution to the principal roads was Rs. 1,240, and Rs. 1,014·95 was expended on minor works, leaving a balance at the end of the year of Rs. 261·73 as against a balance of Rs. 356·15 brought forward from the previous year.

The only new work undertaken by the Committee during the year was the construction of five culverts at a cost of Rs. 125.

Mr. G. M. Fowler, who has left the Island on leave of absence, was Chairman throughout the year.

District Road Committee,
Vavuṇiya-Viláṉkulam, March 19, 1888.

E. T. NOYES,
Chairman.

MANNA'R DISTRICT.

I AM glad to be able to report that, as far as this District is concerned, His Excellency can have no ground for disappointment.

The Committee has in no way relaxed its most energetic exertions, and Mr. Saxton, who acted as Chairman for the latter half of the year, has kept up the percentage of recoveries, if we may judge by results as shown in the following comparative statement :—

	1885.	1886.	1887.
Number on list	5,134 ...	5,327 ...	5,409
Number accounted for as paid or worked ...	4,967 ...	5,168 ...	5,266
Percentage	96·75 ...	97 ...	97·35

The revenue for the year was—

	Rs.	c.
Balance on January 1, 1887...	188	30
Receipts	6,610	0

and the expenditure, including the outstanding balance on account of principal roads, Rs. 6,642·71.

As Government has exacted the uttermost farthing on account of the two-thirds, I think it would be only fair—as indeed, I think, the Ordinance provides—that it should be spent within the District. As it is, the labour of this District is apportioned to parts of the Coast road and Yakkavai-Pésálai road which lie beyond the boundaries of this District.

It so happens that all the labour of this District is commuted, and hence there is no difficulty in meeting the requisition; but I submit that were it otherwise, the labour of this District could not be made available beyond its borders.

I am fully alive to the benefits derived even by the most remote parts of this District from the trunk roads, and I would do nothing that would lead to a less amount being spent on their upkeep and improvement; but I would it were possible by some means or another to provide additional funds for the maintenance of the minor roads. The sum of barely Rs. 2,000, which is all we have for 112 miles of road, is ridiculously inadequate.

I attribute the successful collection in this District to four causes, which, if they existed elsewhere, would remove all cause of complaint as to inefficient work :—

(1) The tax is well within the ability of the people to pay.
(2) The remuneration to the collectors is fair.
(3) The collectors are Udayárs and Police Vidánes, who are the best qualified in every way for the duty, and have a limited number to collect from. No collector in this District is expected to collect from more than a thousand persons.
(4) There is an entire absence in this District of disabled persons, by which I mean paraṉgi and anæmia-stricken wretches, who reduce the percentage in other Districts. Sudden death is the rule here.

W. J. S. BOAKE,
Chairman.

Mannár, February 2, 1888.

MULLAITTI'VU DISTRICT.

THE failure of crops seriously affected the funds of the District Committee, as an unusual number of taxpayers elected to work. It is difficult, where the population is so scattered, to employ labour satisfactorily, and it is much more convenient to the Committee when the tax is commuted.

1,912 receipts were issued, of which 97 were returned on account of deaths, exemptions, and payments elsewhere. For the remaining 1,815, 1,404 men paid single or double commutation, 309 worked on the roads, 11 paid Rs. 10 fine, 10 were imprisoned, and the remaining 77 left the District and had not been accounted for up to the close of the year.

The men who were imprisoned refused to work after being arrested.

No work was done on the road except by the labourers who elected to work, all the available funds of the Committee being absorbed by the payment of contribution to principal roads and fixed charges for establishment, ferries, &c. A grant-in-aid is absolutely necessary to keep the roads in order. The mileage is very large for such a small population, and since the grant was withdrawn there has been no money available for anything more than cutting back jungle at the roadsides. Culverts remain broken, and roads gradually become impassable for carts. At least Rs. 1,000 should be allowed annually in aid of the Committee's funds; otherwise it will be necessary to consider whether some road should not be abandoned in order that the remainder may be kept up.

The importance of keeping up and improving the means of communication in this District is very great, and it would be a great pity to reduce the number of cart roads.

G. M. FOWLER,
Chairman.

Revenue raised and appropriated under the authority of the Thoroughfares Ordinances, Nos. 10 of 1861 and 31 of 1884, in the Northern Province.

PROVINCIAL ROAD COMMITTEE.

REVENUE.	Rs.	c.	EXPENDITURE.	Rs.	c.
Balance on January 1, 1887 ...	23,364	26	Amount paid and labour expended on account of principal roads, resthouses, and canals	28,878	87
Commutation realised in money ...	71,905	0	Amount expended on minor works in money	19,956	50
Do. in labour ...	1,021	50	Do. do. in labour	1,021	50
Resthouse collections	930	85	Repairs to resthouses, &c.	3,726	9
Miscellaneous receipts	4,964	0	Salaries of establishment, commission to division officers, &c.	19,213	1
Government contribution on account of salaries of resthouse-keepers ...	2,200	0	Pay of resthouse-keepers	4,403	68
Government contribution in aid of minor works	500	0	Miscellaneous charges	6,813	86
				84,013	51
			Balance ...	20,872	10
Total ...	104,885	61	Total ...	104,885	61

SOUTHERN PROVINCE.

I ANNEX reports on the working of the Ordinance in each of the three Districts of the Province by my Assistants, giving very full details, and will restrict my own remarks to a general review of the matter under consideration.

2. The following statement exhibits the results in each District during the past two years:—

1886.					1887.			
Galle.	Mátara.	Hambantota.	Total.		Galle.	Mátara.	Hambantota.	Total.
33,381	33,886	16,340	83,557	... Total on original Lists ...	37,687	33,870	15,616	87,173
1,696	3,668	1,500	6,864	... Exempted	1,752	2,648	1,255	5,655
				... Dead	367	365	160	892
824	747	248	2,859	... Paid elsewhere	1,158	236	62	1,456
				... Twice entered	377	278	218	873
2,773	3,774	901	7,448	... Absentees	4,305	3,991	511	8,807
5,293	8,229	2,649	16,171	... Total not liable... ...	7,959	7,518	2,206	17,683
28,088	25,607	13,691	67,386	... Balance liable	29,728	26,352	13,410	69,490
12,851	15,624	6,278	34,753	... Paid at single rate ...	17,945	20,705	8,746	47,496
526	1,173	706	2,405	... Paid at double rate ...	396	692	263	1,351
				... Labour, single	9,763	4,054	3,359	17,176
12,027	6,784	5,907	24,718	... Labour, double	127	40	143	310
				... Labour, twenty-four days' ...	22	3	75	100
80	84	40	204	... Imprisoned	161	62	6	229
46	5	5	56	... Fined	22	2	4	28
25,530	23,670	12,936	62,136	... Total	28,436	25,558	12,596	66,590
2,555	1,937	755	5,250	... Balances unaccounted for ...	1,292	794	814	2,900
9	7½	5½	8	... Percentage	3·4	2·3	5	3·3

3. The net result for the Province is satisfactory: 66,590 men having been accounted for against 62,136 in the previous year, an advance of nearly 7½ per cent. The improvement was specially marked in the Galle and Mátara Districts.

4. In Galle the total number accounted for is 28,436 against 25,530 in 1886, while the number who paid or worked was 28,249 against 25,404 in 1886 and 27,823 in 1885; so that the record has been topped by over 400 men. The number who paid (18,341), however, though in excess of those who did so in 1886 (13,377), is still behind the return for 1885 (19,806). Indeed, the number who pay in money are fewer under the new Ordinance than under the old Ordinance—in 1883, for instance, when 20,693 paid in money. This may be partially attributed to the diminished prosperity of the District, but I am credibly informed that the incidence of the grain tax under the commutation system, and the necessity for paying it in money about the same time, prevent as much of the ready money of the people finding its way to the District Road Committee as in former years. Many, too, who formerly were willing to pay an additional 25c. for an extra month's grace (and 7,907 out of 20,693 did so in 1883), now prefer to work to paying up Rs. 3.

5. In Mátara the total number accounted for is 25,558, against 23,670 in 1886 and 26,730 in 1885, while those who paid or worked was 25,494, against 23,581 in 1886 and 26,730 in 1885. Though the aggregate return was thus still behind that of the first year under the new Ordinance the number who commuted was in excess, viz., 21,397 against 19,822. There is a decrease in the number who have worked of some 2,800 men, which I am inclined partly to ascribe to insufficient opportunity for labour being granted, as Mr. Baumgartner after one failure expects double labour or payment of Rs. 3. It may also be due to the increasing demand for labour now arising, and which leads to a large number of absentees from home, who are thus enabled to evade both compliance and punishment.

6. In Hambantota the total number accounted for is 12,596 against 12,936 for the previous year, while the number who paid or worked was 12,586, against 12,885 in 1886 and 13,176 in 1885. The number who commuted in money has steadily increased, as pointed out by Mr. Murray, having been 3,658 in 1884 (under the old Ordinance) and 6,381, 6,978, and 9,009 during the last three years (under the new Ordinance). The decrease during the past year in the aggregate outturn is consequently amongst those who did not commute and ought to have worked. To obtain the proper outturn of labour requires the most unremitting attention on the part of the chief executive authority of a District, and if from any cause this is relaxed evasion follows. This was what happened in Hambantota last year owing to the change of Assistant Agents: before the new officer could gather up the reins and get familiar with the various matters in hand, the most suitable time for enforcing labour had passed. The fact that an officer, who had in another District earned the well-deserved encomium of Government for his working of the Ordinance, found himself faced by circumstances which prevented an equally successful administration, shows how necessary it is to judge each Province—indeed District—on its own merits, and not by comparison with others showing better results on paper. Mr. Murray reports that he has taken energetic steps against the defaulters, and at the time of writing his report had reduced his unaccounted balance by some 500 men.

7. The unaccounted balance at the end of the year in each District was as follows:—

Galle ...	... 3·4 per cent. of	the aggregate	number in the lists.
Mátara ...	... 2·3	do.	do
Hambantota ...	... 5·	do.	do.
Whole Province ...	... 3·3	do.	do.

8. The number who have commuted at single rate for the current year (1888), and in former years to same date, is as follows:—

	1888.	1887.	1886.	1885.
Galle	18,545*	17,945	12,851	—
Mátara	20,275	20,234	15,634	19,084
Hambantota	7,275	8,746	6,278	—
	46,095	46,925	34,763	

The money payments for 1888 have undoubtedly been affected by the long and almost unprecedented drought which has marked the first quarter of the year. In the Galle District there has been little or no cultivation for yala, so that those who have ready money are loth to part with it, and those who have not, cannot borrow on the security of their crops. It is encouraging that under these circumstances there is an increase in the number who paid in Galle. In Mátara the number who have commuted to date is slightly in excess of those who did so last year, which was an exceptionally good one, exceeding that of 1886. In Hambantota there has been a drop of some 1,470; this is doubtless attributable to the drought as well as to a serious outbreak of fever, which has, I regret to say, reappeared after a couple of years of improved public health.

9. To those locally connected with the administration of the Ordinance, and others aware of the trouble and care now taken to ensure its successful working and of the coercive measures enforced against defaulters, the results chronicled above appear most satisfactory. I regret to say, however, that the Executive Government does not share this view, and has pointed to what appear to be a higher percentage of recoveries in other Districts of the Island. Against inferences drawn from such comparisons, I must most emphatically protest. I have looked into some of these returns and found internal evidence that they have been prepared on a different basis from those of this Province. Nor can superficial comparisons based on the census returns be accepted as incontrovertible, as a deeper study will disclose that the proportions of sexes, age, &c., differ in different Districts. Take, for instance, the number of males who pay poll tax in the Mannár District, which is, I believe, the highest in proportion to the population of any in the Island. Mr. Boake (who came from that District to Hambantota) informed me that in Mannár (as first noted by Mr. Dyke in his diaries) a large number of persons pay the tax who are legally entitled to exemption on the ground of age, but who decline to claim it, as it is looked on as a sign of declining

* 308 men were allowed to commute later in the year on cause shown.

virility and an admission of failing powers which unfit them for the general work of life. Exemption is not therefore generally claimed, he thinks, until a man is well on to 65 instead of 55, as in other Districts. Though we may admire this manly attitude amongst the Moors of Mannár, it would be unfair to expect an equally large proportion of the aggregate population to be shown as liable in other Districts, where the same view is not taken of the disabilities of exemption. I believe that our aggregate results in this Province agree very fairly with those obtained in the Western and Central Provinces. But whether they do so or not, it appears to us that we should be judged by the results over a series of years, secured by various officers, some of whom at least are as competent and zealous as those whose apparently greater success under different surroundings and influences are held up as a standard to judge us by. I invite attention to the protest made by Mr. Baumgartner in his report, and desire to record my concurrence in the views expressed by him.

To enable a just judgment to be formed of our administration on our own merits, I will now proceed to explain the *modus operandi* in this Province, the difficulties we have to contend with the results secured, and the reasons for believing they are satisfactory.

10. In the preparation of our preliminary lists of persons supposed to be liable under the Thoroughfares Ordinance, we are unanimous in this Province in refusing to allow any discretion to our division officers to remove or omit names on the plea of age or any other ground of non-liability, unless written authority is granted in each case by some Chairman. Except those who have died, the names of the former year are consequently reproduced in the new lists, and aggrieved individuals left to obtain redress from the proper authority. In a country where there is as yet no reliable record of the age of more than a few amongst those born over twenty years ago, this precaution is absolutely necessary.

Nor would it be safe to allow names to disappear on the ground of continued absence from the Districts, as I will presently show.

It follows from this procedure, that the original lists prepared in this Province under the Thoroughfares Ordinance are swollen by a number of names of persons from whom nothing can be recovered, certainly within the year, possibly never. This was heretofore well known and recognised, and no question arose, as Government had, until this year, never insisted on its full theoretical quota—indeed, has refrained from demanding the full two-thirds of the actual collections. This was very fully discussed when Mr. Dickson was acting as Chairman of the Provincial Road Committee, and when Government wrote as follows :—"They will perceive that even assuming that the Committee had in some past years recommended that the maximum quantity of labour should be spent on principal works, the Governor and Legislative Council have been careful in their appropriation for 1881 to leave unappropriated in each District a large margin of labour which might legally have been disposed of by them." (C. S. Lr. 8 of March 28, 1881.)

I may incidentally remark here that in consequence of this abstention on the part of Government, especially in the Galle District, the Provincial Road Committee has refrained from asking that a larger proportion of the roads should be taken over as principal, and there are consequently in the Galle District only some 60 miles of principal to some 200 miles of minor cart road.

11. In the lists prepared on the basis above indicated, the probabilities point to a very small proportion of improper omissions (if any). This view is corroborated by calculations based on the census returns. Mr. Baumgartner, in his report, gives reasons for inferring from this source that the males in the Mátara District between 18 and 25 years of age should number about 30,000, whereas he has 33,870 in his lists, or an excess of 3,870, or nearly 13 per cent. In Galle the total number on the lists for 1887 was 37,687, or nearly 2,000 in excess of the recognised proportion, one-fifth of the gross population of the District (178,850, exclusive of the Municipality which is separately assessed and collected). With so much activity in scrutinising the work of the division officers during the past two years in the Galle District under Mr. Vigors' supervision, while other irregularities were disclosed, the number of alleged cases of omission were exceedingly small and but few established, while, on the other hand, 877 cases of double entries were discovered. However, to bring any to light which may exist, I have this year widely circulated a printed notice offering a reward of one rupee to any one furnishing the name of any person not already in our lists. Some lists have been received and are now under examination by Mr. Erskine, who informs me that, as far as he has gone, he has found no reason to believe there are many omissions. My own impression is, that, as a rule, too many persons are put on the lists—young boys especially are included prematurely, and during the past year 111 were struck off, besides a number who paid early in the year to save trouble or run any risk.

12. Assuming, then, the correct number to appear in our lists, the next step is to explain why we cannot, with all our exertions in the Galle and Mátara Districts, collect more than some 75 per cent. out of the gross total. The statistics at the head of this report do this at a glance, and show it is owing to the large proportion of absentees (including those paid elsewhere) which amount to over 14 per cent. in Galle and over 12 per cent. in Mátara.

13. I have in the Galle District taken much trouble to get to the bottom of this absentee question and discover how far it represents a justifiable excuse for non-recovery. In November the division officers were called on to supply lists of such absentees, and warned they would be carefully scrutinised.

In former years such lists have been referred to the Pattu Mudaliyárs for verification, who of course had to depend to a great extent on the report of the subordinate headmen. This year I determined to have an independent examination, and accordingly referred them to Mr. Erskine, Superintendent of Minor Roads, who has an intimate acquaintance with the District and has shown himself most zealous and energetic in exposing any shortcomings on the part of the division officers and headmen; indeed it is to his hearty co-operation in the field, as I may say, and to Mr. Vigors' careful supervision in the office, that I attribute the material increase in the collections of the past year.

The following is Mr. Erskine's report :—

I have carefully verified the absentee lists submitted to me, and I find—

(1) Fifteen per cent. are men who are permanent absentees : they have been continuously away for a period of two or more years, and have no domestic or other ties in the village to bring them back.

(2) Sixty-five per cent. of the total are men whose occupation is in other Provinces (mostly Central). These seldom or never return home, although they have family connections and interests in landed property; and when they do, their visits are so uncertain, and of no longer duration than a day or two, that it is next to impossible to secure

a personal service of notices on them. Notices attached to their houses would be lost labour, as their visits are so casual.

I can give as an example the village of Ambalaggoḍa, where in 1886 the division officers indiscriminately, issued double labour notices, and consequently a number of warrants came into my hands, and although I and my peons are incessantly on the watch, we have only been able to make a few stray arrests, and others produced receipts for payment in other Districts.* The foregoing are more or less men who come under the trader and skilled labour class, such as carpenters, masons, &c.

(3) Twenty per cent. are men engaged on hire as coolies throughout the Galle and Kalutara Districts and the Pasdun kóralé on cinnamon, tea, and cocoanut estates, also mining operations. They turn up at their village frequently but visits are never prolonged over a week. I find that if the division officers and police officers exercise due vigilance, these men could be personally served with single and double notices.

I am now occupied in serving them with double labour notices, and once they perceive that it is determined to either make them pay or work, the result will in the future be satisfactory and dissipate the erroneous impression now abroad among these ignorant men, that if they can evade personal services throughout the year, they could not be dealt with subsequently. The foregoing are men essentially of the working (cooly) class, who are indigent, but industrious generally, seeking employment at a distance from their villages as they have no occupation near their homes.

14. As there are 4,305 names in their absentee lists, the 20 per cent. from whom something may be eventually recovered represents about 860 men belonging to the very poorest and most struggling and yet industrious class, who go abroad in search of employment to save themselves from starvation. Might I suggest that it is scarcely politic to exact the uttermost farthing from this residuum? It will probably result in a larger number being sent to prison.

15. No such consideration, however, applies to the artizan and trader class, who evade their liability and are scattered up-country or live in Colombo; but it is impossible to obtain their addresses to follow them up by communicating with other District Committees. Under the old Ordinance these men probably might be got by attaching their property, but there is no provision for doing so under the law as it now stands; nor am I prepared to advocate its re-introduction, as its working was attended by serious inconvenience and opened the door to oppression, if not fraud. I have now tried leaving notices for double labour at the last known residence of such men, and on default arising issuing warrants for their arrest.

This has led to relations paying for absent members of the family, and according to circumstances the concession of single or double rate has been granted when any reasonable excuse has been forthcoming. Proof of payment elsewhere has been adduced in 1,158 cases as against 724 in last year in the Galle District alone; many other absentees have doubtless paid to up-country division officers, and if particulars of such payments were furnished by the Committees who collect to the Committees of the District to which the payee "belongs," the outstanding under this head might be considerably reduced.

16. I cannot suggest any other practicable means of proceeding against this class, except, possibly, by requiring employers of Sinhalese labour up-country to make some return showing the names of those employed by them on the last day in each quarter, and making them responsible for the commutation due by all such men; the liability to be avoided by furnishing information of any payment to an authorised collector.

17. *Absentees* thus account for over half the deficiency of the 25 per cent. from whom nothing can be got. The other half is made up of deaths (during the year) and double entries, which cannot well be avoided, both amounting to about 2 per cent.; exemptions 5 per cent.; leaving unaccounted for about another 3 per cent. of the original number on what I may term the unweeded lists.

18. *Exemptions*, I have been told, are too heavy an item in our returns. I can only reply that on one is exempted unless seen by one of the Chairmen and duly released in writing. Allowance has to be made in considering our figures to the fact that we include as exemptions men entitled to be discharged on grounds of age, who are included for the reason already stated. I find that during 1887 in the Galle District 545 were struck off on these grounds, or rather less than there should be, judging by statistical data. Thus, the published returns show that in Ceylon only about 50 per cent. of those born reach 20 years of age, and of those who do 20 per cent. reach the age of 55, or (assuming the proportions of males and females to be probably the same at this age) the percentage of males who die is 10 per cent. of the total births. As in the Galle District the births average about 5,600 per annum, 560 persons each year pass the statutory age, and should be removed from the lists. As the number exempted for over-age last year was 545, judging by simple appearances (as other evidence is rare), we seem to be working pretty close to the correct figures; another 111 men exempted for being under age, being doubtful cases brought in by the headmen to save themselves from any imputation of partiality. The remaining 1,100 exempted may be classed as the sick, the blind, the maimed, and the halt, hopelessly crippled in purse and body, who have been duly paraded and inquired about by myself or one of my Assistants; doubtful cases of incapability, such as allegations of hydrocele, hernia, &c., being referred to medical authorities.

19. This review of the *modus operandi* in this Province would not be complete without a short account of the steps taken to improve the collecting agency and the effective enforcement of the coercive measures taken against defaulters. In the Galle District, which is worked more immediately under my own supervision, ably assisted by Messrs. Vigors and Erskine, various measures have been taken, the results of which are from time to time communicated to my Assistants and their adoption recommended. Thus in three pattus the Committee introduced the practice (which I had for several years found to work so well in Mátara when in charge of that District) of appointing each police officer as the division officer under the Ordinance for his village. The result was an addition of some 4,000 names to our lists: but I fear these new agents were more zealous than discreet, as, notwithstanding this large nominal increment, we only secured an increased collection from the pattus of 600 men as compared with the previous year. In the other pattus the operation of the division officers were carefully supervised by Mr. Vigors, and various minor irregularities disclosed, chiefly in providing substitutes for well-to-do relations or confiding friends who did not take receipts for money payments. One division officer was prosecuted, but the evidence was considered insufficient to justify conviction; he was, however, dismissed. Compared with the aggregate returns,

* In confirmation of this I may mention that out of 1,747 warrants issued against defaulters on account of 1886, we have been only able to arrest to date 436; while out of 2,573 warrants issued against defaulters on account of 1887 only 870 have been arrested to date. This is by a staff of special peons paid by results, who are employed for the purpose of arresting defaulters.

the number involved formed a very insignificant proportion. As both the division officer was punished, and those who could not produce proper receipts treated as defaulters, I think we may consider any malpractice which existed has been stopped.

20. As regards coercive measures against those who have made default, our practice in the Galle District is to issue notice for double labour at certain centres where stone for breaking is provided. The Superintendent of Minor Roads is given information of all such notices, and furnished at the same time with a warrant to be enforced in case of failure to pay Rs. 3 or to attend and work. In such case the warrant is at once handed by him to one of his staff of peons for execution, and the defaulter (if in the village) is at once brought up and dealt with by the Chairman. As a matter of fact, however, most of those who make default are absentees from the village, and out of 2,573 warrants issued during 1887 we could only get hold of about one-third, and only one-half of these could be rendered liable to any penalty, the rest not being liable on some good grounds. The warrants, I should add, are addressed to the Fiscal, and Mr. Erskine holds a deputation to enable him to act legally, and his peons are licensed as process servers but paid by results.

21. In Mátara Mr. Baumgartner, I am aware, pays considerable attention to the working of the Road Ordinance, and the fact that he is in a position to account for all but 2·3 per cent. on his lists speaks for itself.

22. In Hambantota Mr. Murray has been unremitting in his endeavours, and has succeeded in making recoveries equivalent to over 80 per cent. of the total on the lists, or five per cent. more than Galle or Mátara, but his absentees are much fewer, only 3½ against 13 per cent.

23. I have written at considerable length, as I desire to record, I trust clearly and temperately, the position taken up by the Road Committees of this Province, to justify their working of the Ordinance under circumstances of considerable difficulty (attributable to the large proportion who prefer to labour), and to explain the basis on which their returns have been hitherto rendered.

Though the subject has given rise to much correspondence, I regret to state Government have fixed the contribution to the principal roads during 1888 on the basis of a probable collection of 85 per cent. of the gross number on the lists. In Galle and Mátara, in spite of the utmost exertions, we have during the past year been only able to work up to 75 per cent. for the reasons given. We hope to secure an advance on this, but further progress will be small and laborious; indeed it is a question, if the returning prosperity, and the demand for Sinhalese labour it is creating on estates and elsewhere outside the Province, will not lead to more absentees. Meanwhile the apportionment for the current year is likely to have the following effect on the amount available for the minor roads in the Province :—

	Galle.	Mátara.	Hambantota.
	Men.	Men.	Men.
Probable total actual collection ..	28,400*	27,000*	13,000
Working expenses	6,000	5,550	2,626
Apportioned to principal roads and rest-houses	15,575	13,946	4,066
Balance available for minor roads ...	6,823	7,504	6,308
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Equivalent in money	10,200	11,250	9,462
Deduct pay and allowances to Superintendent	3,000	2,720	1,380
Amount available for upkeep of minor roads	7,200	8,530	8,082
	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.
Length of minor cart roads ...	200	111	—

24. In Galle, after making the lowest possible provision to save our numerous bridges from utter collapse, and a little for tools and overseers, it is calculated that labour of the nominal worth of Rs. 3,600 will be left on paper for the upkeep of the minor roads. But as practically Rs. 2,775 worth lies in the Hinidum pattu and other outlying districts, and most of it beyond the statutory distance from even our minor cart roads, there will be practically under Rs. 1,000 worth for the 200 miles in the coast districts, where our chief roads lie, but where all the local labour must be supplied to the principal roads, as there is no other way of discharging our liability thereto.

25. In Mátara matters are not quite so bad, as there is a considerable mileage of principal roads running into the interior of the District, so that the proportion beyond the statutory distance is very small (only 530 men). A larger share, too, is paid in money. Mátara has a large toll grant which will help it to meet the demand of the current year in excess of its probable collections under the Ordinance.

26. In Hambantota (owing, I believe, to a mistake in the returns originally furnished) the demand for the principal roads is not in excess of the two-thirds of the net collections in a favourable year. But owing to the adverse circumstances which have marked the first quarter, the proportion of labour will be larger this year. As this is resident chiefly in the western part of the District, and can only be practically called out as far east as Ranne, there will, I fear, be difficulties in regard to the rest of the road between that and Hambantota (18 miles).

27. As a natural consequence of such a large reduction in the revenue of the District Committee, more roads will have to be taken over as principal ones, to be kept up out of the two-thirds, and managed by the Public Works Department. This will lead to a policy of centralisation, just when in the whole of the civilised world efforts are being made to extend local Government. Especially is this the case in India, when every year a larger share of funds is being placed at the disposal of Local Boards. Without entering into the bigger question, I would point out that, as regards the interior communications of the Districts, the Road Committees, as now constituted, are able to work far more economically than the Public Works Department. I do not mean, of course, to say equally good work is done for less money; but that the Public Works Department officers' standard is necessarily higher, their system more rigid, and they have to work to an estimate, with the prospect of an exact completion report to face at the end of the year.

* These are the highest figures yet reached.

On the minor roads there is more freedom of action; one man will insist on excellence, while another will prefer to open up the country by a larger mileage. As traffic, floods, or other influences affect a road, funds can be more easily diverted from some other service; and lower excellence in bridges is accepted as long as the communication is kept open. Mistakes are doubtless made and money occasionally wasted; but it is through this agency that the low country of Ceylon has been so opened up, and investors encouraged to penetrate the interior, from which the general revenue has heretofore benefited, while the Committees have each year found themselves able to do less and less in the way of extensions, and are now crippled as regards mere upkeep.

E. ELLIOTT,
Chairman.

April 28, 1888.

GALLE DISTRICT.

DURING the year under review a very satisfactory advance has been made in the amount of effective labour which the Committee has secured. From the final returns of the Mudaliyárs and division officers the following statement has been prepared :—

	1886.		1887.	
Total on lists	—	33,381	—	37,687
Exempted	1,696		1,752*	
Dead	—		367	
Twice entered	824		377	
Paid elsewhere	—		1,158	
Absentees	2,773		4,305	
		5,293		7,959
Balance effectives	—	28,088	—	29,728
Paid Re. 1·50	12,851		17,945	
Paid Rs. 3	526		396	
Commuted short labour ...	7		4	
Worked six days	—		9,759	
Worked twelve days ...	12,027		127	
Worked twenty-four days ...	—		22	
Imprisoned	80		161	
Fined	46		22	
		25,530		28,436
Balance (warrants issued) ...	—	2,558	—	1,292

2. It will be seen from the above that, as compared with 1886, the effective total has increased about 1,700, the number who have been accounted for duly as paid or worked by 2,900 men, and the balance of defaulters against whom warrants are outstanding has been reduced by just one-half. As compared with the year in which the largest collection ever known in Galle District was made, there is an increase in the effective recoveries from 27,986 to 28,436.

3. Satisfactory as this progress undoubtedly is, there may be room for improvement; but the extent to which this is possible is a vexed question. During the year under review the subject has been brought prominently to the point, in connection with the estimates of the Committee's resources for 1888 and the amount which Government can look forward to for the upkeep of principal roads and resthouses. This, it is alleged, is estimated on far too low a basis, and Government have intimated that, taking the total numbers on the lists in 1887, and not the effectives, as the basis of the estimate, 15 per cent. will be allowed for contingencies in 1888, and of the balance two thirds in full will be apportioned to principal works after providing for the prime charges under the Ordinance. The Committee, therefore, is called upon to face a serious difficulty in being called on to provide funds on a theoretical estimate, and further in having the full Government two-thirds claimed, whereas hitherto this has not for some years been exacted, Government having in 1881 recognised fully that it was not being contributed, and acquiesced tacitly in the fact, doubtless considering the large mileage of minor roads kept in good order as a justification. The proportion of principal to minor roads, it may be as well to note, is only about 60 to 270, and yet the Government estimates for 1888 claim Rs. 21,000 for principal roads alone, and will probably leave about Rs. 10,200 for all minor works inclusive of the pay of the Superintendent; but when this is deducted and provision made for subordinate supervision, tools, and repair of bridges, the amount for the upkeep of the minor roads will be about Rs. 3,600, all in labour, of which Rs. 2,775 worth is in Hinidum pattu and other outlying divisions where there are no cart roads.

4. The Committee are of opinion that the figures taken by Government are far too high as the probable net collections, and that though they may be based on a numerical return sent in for 1887, it is not one which can be relied on, as it is considerably higher than any ever furnished before, and is accounted for by the great pressure put on by the Committee at the end of 1886 to secure fuller lists of persons probably liable, as suspicion had been excited that all who should appear therein were not included. In three pattus a new system of working the Ordinance, by making each police officer the division officer of his village, brought into play a fresh and zealous agency, anxious to justify its employment, new to the work, and determined to be on the safe side against charges of favouritism, undoubtedly included the names of a number of persons not legally liable owing to age or absence. (Out of some 3,400 names added in these pattus the increased collection was only about 600.) The result has been a heavy absentee return, which, though under verification it may be largely reduced, must still appear as a prominent item.

5. Apart from the numerical total of 37,687 itself, it is alleged that those figures are in themselves too low, the proportion of able-bodied males to the total population being practically as 1 to 5. A very careful examination is being now prepared to try to arrive at the correct number who are actually in the District, as a proportion of unregistered must always be allowed for; but

* Includes for 1887: over age 545, under age 111, total 656

taking the figures from the Registrar-General's return, it appears that the population of Galle District was (exclusive of the Municipality):—

By census of 1881	...	—	177,937
Births to December 31, 1887 ...	...	40,468	
Deaths	...	31,879	
Add net increase	...		8,589
			186,526

The total on the lists of 1887 was 37,687, which is slightly better than 1 in 5; but as a matter of fact, the total requires to be reduced by the number of absentees, a class which the Committee cannot control, and which it can only get at by a system which must show a balance of defaulters at the end of this year out of all proportion to the true figures. It may therefore be taken for granted that the total of males liable and connected with the District is about 37,600; but of these a proportion are regular absentees for the greater part, if not the whole year: carpenters at Moraṭuwa, sawyers from Amblangoḍa in the Central Province, and others in plumbago pits and generally scattered through the Western and Central Provinces. Efforts have been made to find out the residences of some alleged absentees, but as a rule unsuccessfully, and even when payment has been tendered on behalf of a man by his relatives, it is usually impossible to get any information of his whereabouts, the general reply being that he went away saying he was going to Kandy or elsewhere, and nothing had been heard of him afterwards. There is among this class, however, a decided advance in its recognition of the liability to work or commute, and men have come forward during the year, who had been absent for some months, to pay double commutation or work, in fear that a warrant might be out against them.

6. Of the defaulters for the current and past years, nearly 1,200 were disposed of, the figures being:—157 on account of 1885, 402 on account of 1886, and 634 on account of 1887. Of these, 354 were sent to jail and 72 paid a fine of Rs. 10, the others being variously dealt with. The course pursued has been to examine the record against individuals for other years, and taking that into consideration with the tenor of his defence or excuse, to impose the full penalty or deal leniently. Thus, a defaulter for 1887, if found to have been in default for 1886, and to have little or no excuse, was ordinarily sentenced to a month's imprisonment; whereas one who had paid or worked in 1885 and 1886, if he offered any reasonable excuse or explanation, was allowed to pay double commutation within two or three days, or to work. A distinction was thus drawn, which was pointed out to the men at the time, between persistent and accidental defaulters; those ready to discharge their liability, but accidentally prevented, knew that their previous conduct would be counted to their credit.

7. During the year 409 men only were reported for short labour, of whom the majority were duly accounted for. The difficulty of getting notices of adjudication or to attend inquiry served caused considerable delay, but it has not been thought necessary to make any alteration in the system, except to amend the notice, so as to give individuals the opportunity of working the balance of their time within a certain period, or in default to attend and show cause. As a matter of fact, a large proportion of those who are reported leave the working party through some indisposition and are ready to go back and work, but cannot afford to come long distances to an inquiry, which is the preliminary step; and the amended notice does away with any hardship as far as they are concerned.

8. The income of the Committee during the year was Rs. 45,402·60, of which Rs. 30,062·35 was available in cash and Rs. 15,340·25 in labour. The increase in the cash recoveries is a satisfactory item, and it is hoped may be maintained; the expenditure of resources in cash being easier to manage and arrange for, and the results more satisfactory, than where a large body of labour has to be given work. After providing for the prime charges under the Ordinance, amounting to Rs. 9,433·84, the contribution to the principal roads and resthouses was Rs. 15,095·75. The balance of Rs. 19,314 was left for minor roads and works, including the pay and allowances of the permanent staff (superintendent and one head overseer, Rs. 3,580), besides cost of tools (Rs. 1,346) and repairs to bridges (Rs. 1,666). When the outlay on these items (Rs. 5,004) is deducted there is left only Rs. 13,000 for the upkeep of some 200 miles of minor cart road and some 50 miles of bridle path, or about Rs. 50 a mile.

9. Notwithstanding this low rate of allowance and the heavier traffic which the development of the District is throwing on the minor roads, their condition was on the whole good; but during the latter part of the year the heavy rains rendered the low-lying portions of the road from Galle to Baddegama almost impassable for a short period, and the road to Koṭṭowa also suffered severely. It was impossible, however, to provide funds enough in cash to keep all the bridges in order. About two-thirds of the Kimbi-ęla bridges, on the road to Baddegama, was thoroughly repaired at a cost of Rs. 600. This is a very heavy work, the depth to which the piles have to be sunk entailing very large timber and heavy work. It is hoped to complete this bridge in 1888 if funds are available. The Pambantoṭa bridge, between Angulugaha and the Coast road, was also repaired at a cost of Rs. 500, and Rs. 566 more was expended on two bridges, apart from the repairs on the sectional upkeep votes.

10. *Resthouses.*—The expenditure under this head was Rs. 3,739·62 of which Rs. 1,052·20 was for salaries and Rs. 1,562·92 for equipment. As the latter was, as a rule, bad and insufficient, it was thought advisable to take the whole Province in hand and obtain a large supply of crockery, &c., from England. This arrived at the end of the year, and will be distributed shortly. Resthouse work was confined to general upkeep. Arrangements were also made for the ventilation of the cesspits in the principal resthouses. The total expenditure on the buildings and repairs was Rs. 1,124·50.

11. *Roads.*—The condition of the section of the Coast road from Bentoṭa to Goiyápána (48 miles) has been fair, except a short section in the town of Galle; the Imaduwa road has been better, but, as compared with the coast line, the roadway to be kept in repair is narrower and the traffic is trifling.

12. In view of the Government two-thirds being now claimed in full, it will be matter for the early consideration of the Committee whether Government should not be approached to take over some sections of the roads now classed as minor. With the exception of the short line to Baddegama, all access to the interior from Bentoṭa southward to Galle is by minor roads, some of which should now be placed under Government control, such as the section starting from Ratgama

and leading to the Naiduwa plumbago pits, the section from Amblangoḍa to the tea estates, and that from Galle to Koṭṭowa, which give access to the Udugama District, and which is now receiving traffic far beyond its capacity. In fact this road, to meet the requirements of the immediate future, will have to be metalled, an expenditure which the District Road Committee is quite unable to face.

13. As showing that a certain amount of stigma is attached to a man holding a respectable position and yet working on the road *in propria persona*, I may refer to the action of the village committee of Hikkaḍuwa, who tendered their resignation owing to a fellow-member having been seen working on the road as a cooly. Such a spirit may be carried too far, but it might with advantage be introduced into certain parts, especially the neighbourhood of Baddegama, where either well-to-do men work instead of paying, or, with the connivance of the division officer and overseer, send substitutes. A change in the division officers has been found advisable, and inquiries recently made, coupled with the change, will no doubt effect an alteration.

14. The Committee have to thank the Superintendent of Minor Works for much of the successful work of the past year. Intimately acquainted with the District and the people, untiring in his activity, and thoroughly devoted to, and acquainted with his work, he has been of invaluable assistance in urging and obtaining from those liable a discharge of their obligation, and bringing home to the persistent defaulters that they must obey the law or take the consequences. Though the proportion of those who seem to evade their duties is small, it is only through an active and intelligent officer of this nature that the District Road Committee can hope to have its influence and power felt. He has now undertaken an independent verification of the reported absentees, a duty which requires much hard work and much knowledge of the people, and the results of which will be of great advantage to the Committee in 1889.

C. T. D. VIGORS.
Secretary.

HAMBANTOṬA DISTRICT.

MY absence from this District from June till the end of the year prevents me from giving more than a summary account of the work of the District Road Committee.

2. The following statement shows the mode in which the liability under the Ordinance has been met in this District :—

Total on list	—	15,616
Paid at Rs. 1·50	8,746	
Paid at Rs. 3	263	
Worked six days	3,359	
Worked twelve days	143	
Sent to work for four weeks at labour centres	75	
		12,586
Total effectives disposed of	—	
Balance ...	—	3,030
Exempted	1,253	
Paid elsewhere...	62	
Twice entered...	218	
Dead	160	
Left the District	500	
Imprisoned	6	
In jail	11	
Fined	4	
Ordained Buddhist Priests	2	
		2,216
Balance ...	—	814

3. The cash collections at single rate have risen steadily ever since the introduction of the new Ordinance, from Rs. 9,438 in 1885 to Rs. 13,119 in the current year. As may be expected, there is a corresponding decrease in the outturn of labour, but the commuting of labour into a money payment is a good sign and betokens increased prosperity in the District.

4. The balance number of labourers unaccounted for at the end of the year amounted to 814 men, but this had to be reduced to 300 at the date of my report (April), and by the end of May the 300 will also disappear. Absentees from the District and sick persons unable to work, and who are therefore exempted, form the largest proportion.

5. The number of men who turned out to labour were 705 on the main roads and 2,797 on the minor roads.

The contribution to the Public Works Department, amounting to Rs. 5,800, was met in the following way :—In cash, Rs. 4,300 ; in labour, Rs. 1,119 ; total, Rs. 5,419.

6. The unusually wet weather in December was the cause of much damage to minor roads all over the District : a few of those running across paddy fields had a foot or two of water over them, washing away gravel and making it very heavy for cart traffic afterwards. These are all being repaired now.

7. Among the new works in progress and taken up during the year were—

The construction of a new cart road from Dammulla to Wirakeṭiya. This has been advanced to within half a mile of the Wirakeṭiya market. Practically it is open to cart traffic already, but the last half mile requires forming and gravelling.

Improved gradients and deviations on the Talahaganwaduwa road, connecting this District with Mátara.

8. A new trace for a tavalam road has been made, and three miles of it opened from Hambantoṭa to the Ratnapura District. It passes along the end of Karagan-áru léwáya through Arabokke, and falls into the old track at Béragama. A deviation will again be made here to bring the road on to Liyangaha-ela, where the river will be crossed by a ford and the Ratnapura District entered half a mile further on.

The new trace when completed will be used by salt tavalams from Hambantoṭa to Ratnapura, as it is shorter by three miles than the old road, and keeps on a fairly level track the whole way, and avoids low swampy ground.

9.—Statement of Work done in Maintenance and Upkeep of Minor Roads in the Hambantota District during 1887 :—

Name of Road.	Description of Work.															Amount Spent.		Total.
	Gravel excavated.	Gravel transported.	Gravelling.		Patching.		Levelling roads.		Earthwork.		Jungle cut and cleared.		Side Drains.		Bridges and Culverts.	In Labour.	In Cash.	
	Cubes	Cubes.	Miles.	Yards.	Miles.	Yards.	Miles.	Yards.	Miles.	Yards.	Miles.	Yards.	Miles.	Yards.	Nos.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Beliatta to Katuwana	363	380	2	235	2	1,239	9	1,713	—	489	43	626	17	1,062	22	1,038 0	464 29	1,502 29
Beliatta to Tawapiria	195½	336½	1	140	3	250	6	301	1	1,266	5	1,063	3	691	12	154 50	530 24	684 74
Ranna to Walasmulla	133½	2	1	31	1	705	16	1,675	—	623	20	6	19	1,390	52	769 50	609 56	1,379 6
Marakoliya to Wirakętiya ..	597½	509½	2	204	2	162	5	1,325	4	873	19	1,756	17	1,260	69	825 0	401 87	1,226 87
Dammulla to do.	97½	93	—	702	—	1,093	4	378	1	46	13	1,430	3	365	17	570 0	647 74	1,217 74
Talahaganwaduwa to Mí-ęla ...	3	6	—	88	—	445	—	1,123	3	786	2	513	1	651	26	373 50	325 60	699 10
Beliatta to Gętamanna	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	280	—	—	—	48 0	28 50	76 50
Roads and paths of East Giruwâ pattu ...	—	—	—	—	—	1,529	2	742	1	1,159	44	1,206	2	1,044	3	534 0	149 69	683 69
Do. Magam pattu ...	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	3	—	3	—	—	—	—	36 0	835 38	871 38
Total ...	1,390	1,327	6	1,400	16	143	46	217	15	1,722	154	1,600	65	1,183	201	4,348 50	3,992 87	8,341 37

C. A. MURRAY,
Chairman.

MÁTARA DISTRICT.

THE District Road Committee of Mátara consists of two Official Members, viz., the Assistant Government Agent and the District Engineer, and three Unofficial Members, one to represent each class of the community, viz., European, Burgher, and native. The gentlemen representing these communities who held office during 1887 were Messrs. F. F. Blatherwick, J. H. Ernst, and J. F. Tillekeratne, Mudaliyár, who were elected in December, 1885.

The next election of Unofficial Members will take place in December, 1888.

Meetings of Committee are held nominally once a month, but a quorum is usually only obtained on the occasions when there are funds available for expenditure or other important business to be done.

The number of persons entered in the returns as liable to labour or tax under the Ordinance was 33,870, as compared with 33,836 for 1886 and 33,326 for 1885.

The percentage which the number in the lists bears to the entire population (exclusive of those within Local Board limits) is over 21, and the percentage it bears to the total male population is over 42. This number is in excess of what it should be when calculated on the census of 1881.

After most careful calculation from the census returns, and allowing for an annual increase since 1881 at the usual rate, I find that the number of males between the ages of 18 and 55 is at most 30,000, thus showing at least 3,870 persons to have been included in the lists over and above the probable number liable. This difference represents a migratory portion of the population who cannot be excluded from our lists, and yet who cannot be always accounted for.

The following statement shows how those entered in the lists discharged their liability by labour, payment, or exemption for the year 1887 as compared with 1886 :—

	1886.		1887.	
	No.	Percentage in Total.	No.	Percentage in Total.
Men liable to labour	33,836	—	33,870	—
No. who paid single commutation	15,624	50	20,705	61
Do. double	1,173		692	
Performed single labour	6,784	21	4,054	13
Do. double	—	—	43	
Exempted	3,668	10	2,648	9
Imprisoned or paid Rs. 10	89	11	62	14
Fined			2	
Absentees	4,561		3,991	
Paid elsewhere			236	
Dead			365	
Double enteries		—	278	
Remaining in default	1,937	8	794	3
Total	33,836	100	33,870	100

The area of the District is 548 square miles, and the total population (after allowing for removal and increase since the census of 1881) is 163,145.

I annex a statement showing each minor road in the District, its length, the amount expended on it from both District Road Committee funds and toll grants, and the average cost per mile for upkeep during the year :—

Name of Road.	Mileage.	Expenditure. District Road Committee Funds.		Expenditure. Toll Grant.		Average Cost per Mile.	
		Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Dondra streets	2	409	80	—		204	90
Dikwęlla to Demaṭapiṭiya	4	251	0	—		62	75
Męḍawatta to Hunnadeniya	14	603	89	555	19	82	75
Hakmana to Pottéwela	3½	744	20	—		212	62
Hakmana to Panawela	5	647	20	—		129	44
Hakmana to Kamburupiṭiya	8	261	35	—		32	66
Koṭapola to Beralapanátara	7	491	91	—		70	27
Kamburupiṭiya to U'rubokka	30	530	27	—		17	67
Tihagoḍa to Akuręssa	14	625	73	1,271	16	135	49
Polwatta to Akuręssa, including Muttęṭṭuwatta road	16	1,121	63	1,698	10	176	23
Mátara to Telijjáwila	8	311	11	470	0	97	63
Borala road	4	440	2	—		110	0
Węligama streets	2	295	49	—		147	74
Naimena road	5	282	81	—		56	56
Henagama road	3½	249	36	—		71	24
Madihe road	3	399	47	—		133	16
Kirinda to Tumba	5	998	54	—		199	70
Maḍawela road	2	411	60	—		205	80
Aparakke road	6	1,131	17	—		188	52
Nadugala road	10	101	85	—		10	18
District road, Morawak kóralé	10	500	0	—		50	0
Opaté to Hulandoya	4	66	37	—		16	59
Korahana road	5¾	107	90	—		18	76
Mulaṭiyána bridlepath	9	95	55	—		10	61
Total	180¾	11,078	22	3,994	45	101	72

The roads may be summarised thus :—

(1) Cart roads kept in thorough repair, 111 miles ; average per mile, Rs. 135.
(2) Rough cart roads, bridle and gaṇsabhawá paths, 69¾ miles ; average per mile, Rs. 10.

There are seven principal resthouses and three minor resthouses in the District. The expenditure on these (including pay of resthouse-keepers) was Rs. 3,791·30, while the resthouse collections amounted to Rs. 911·04. The roads and resthouses were all kept in good order.

The general result as shown by the figures given above may, I think, be considered fairly satisfactory.

The working of the Ordinance 31 of 1884 in the Mátara District having formed the subject of Government censure, I am somewhat diffident, in the absence of figures relating to the other Districts with which it is alleged those for this District so unfavourably compare, to express any strong opinion to the contrary. I will therefore merely repeat the defence I have already urged, namely, that the exemptions during 1887 were 30 per cent. less, while the actual number of men who paid or worked was 8 per cent. more than for the year 1886 ; and that this improvement is to the credit of the Committee. Whether the improvement is commensurate with that shown by other Committees, I am not in a position to judge ; but I still think that the percentage of population on our lists will be found to be higher than elsewhere, and that, therefore, although on our present total we show a large proportion of persons who fail to discharge their liability under the Ordinance, if that total is reduced to a percentage of the population equivalent to that in the lists of other Districts, it will be found that our percentage of defaulters is not in excess of theirs.

At the same time I would submit that comparisons between Districts in different parts of the Island cannot be fairly made. The difficulties in recovering tax and in securing labour, where there is a migratory or scattered population, are altogether unknown in some Districts.

I must therefore express my deep regret, that what appears from the figures before me to have been an undeserved censure should have been passed on this Committee.

With regard to the Ordinance itself, I will repeat what I reported in 1886, namely, that I think that the period for payment at double rate and for performance of double labour should be made the same ; that is, that as long as a man is allowed to work twelve days he should have the option of paying the double rate, and *vice versâ*.

H. P. BAUMGARTNER,
Chairman.

District Road Committee's Office,
Mátara, March 20, 1888.

Revenue raised and appropriated under the authority of the Thoroughfares Ordinances, Nos. 10 of 1861 and 31 of 1884, in the Southern Province.

GALLE DISTRICT.

REVENUE.	Rs.	c.	EXPENDITURE.	Rs.	c.
Balance on January 1, 1887 ...	656	81	Amount expended on account of principal roads and canals, in money ...	6,509	88
Commutation realised in money ...	28,428	50	Do. do. in labour	4,846	25
Do. in labour ...	15,340	25	Amount expended on minor works in money	8,712	62
Resthouse collections	612	86	Do. do. in labour	10,458	0
Miscellaneous receipts	364	18	Repairs to resthouses, &c., in money ...	2,651	62
			Do. in labour ...	36	0
			Salaries of establishment, commission to division officers, &c.	9,433	84
			Pay of resthouse-keepers	1,052	0
			Miscellaneous charges	143	81
				43,844	2
			Balance ...	1,558	58
Total ...	45,402	60	Total ...	45,402	60

HAMBANTOṬA DISTRICT.

REVENUE.	Rs.	c.	EXPENDITURE.	Rs.	c.
Balance on January 1, 1887 ...	997	14	Amount expended on account of principal roads, resthouses, and canals, in money	4,000	0
Commutation realised in money ...	14,134	0	Do do. in labour	1,119	0
Do. in labour ...	5,467	50	Amount expended on minor works in money	5,539	94
Resthouse collections	381	69	Do. do. in labour	4,348	50
Miscellaneous receipts	434	18	Repairs to resthouses, &c	780	89
			Salaries of establishment, commission to division officers, &c.	3,706	31
			Pay of resthouse-keepers	803	30
			Miscellaneous charges	646	79
				20,944	73
			Balance ...	469	78
Total ...	21,414	51	Total ...	21,414	51

MATARA DISTRICT.

REVENUE.	Rs.	c.	EXPENDITURE.	Rs.	c.
Balance on January 1, 1887 ...	4,594	58	Amount expended on account of principal roads, resthouses, and canals, in labour	29,075	0
Commutation realised in money ...	33,932	82	Do. do. in money	3,544	86
Do. in labour ...	6,530	64	Amount expended on minor works in money	12,061	57
Resthouse collections	939	27	Do. in labour ...	2,911	53
Miscellaneous receipts	88	46	Repairs to resthouses, &c., in money ...	2,040	5
			Do. in labour ...	74	25
			Salaries of establishment, commission to division officers, &c.	6,967	53
			Pay of resthouse-keepers	1,676	99
			Miscellaneous charges	538	34
				38,890	12
			Balance ...	7,195	65
Total ...	46,085	77	Total ...	46,085	77

EASTERN PROVINCE.

I HAVE the honour to submit my report upon the working of the Thoroughfares Ordinance in the Eastern Province during the past year.

2. The total number of men borne on the lists was 26,706. Of this number all but 1,104, or 4·13 per cent., have been accounted for.

3. The following tables show the working of the Ordinance (1) in the whole Province, and (2) in each District of the Province :—

A.—Statement showing the Working of the Thoroughfares Ordinance No. 31 of 1884 in the Eastern Province during 1886 and 1887.

	1886.	1887.
1. Men liable to labour	26,421 ...	26,706
2. Paid commutation	20,666 ...	20,182
3. Performed labour	2,054 ...	3,029
4. Exempted	1,134 ...	1,505
5. Imprisoned for default	132 ...	21
6. Fined	27 ...	12
7. Accounted for as dead, or paid elsewhere ...	1,054 ...	853
8. Absentees and double entries	1,354 ...	1,104
9. Remaining in default	...	...
10. Balance unaccounted for	— ...	—

B.—Statement showing the Working of the Thoroughfares Ordinance No. 31 of 1884 in each District of the Province during 1886 and 1887.

	For 1886.		For 1887.	
	Batticaloa.	Trincomalee.	Batticaloa.	Trincomalee.
1. Men liable to labour ...	23,450 ...	2,971 ...	23,806 ...	2,900
2. Paid commutation ...	18,021 ...	2,645 ...	17,854 ...	2,318
3. Performed labour ...	2,004 ...	50 ...	2,789 ...	240
4. Exempted	1,076 ...	58 ...	1,394 ...	111
5. Imprisoned for default ...	125 ...	7 ...	12 ...	9
6. Fined	27 ...	— ...	12 ...	—
7. Accounted for as dead, or paid elsewhere	991 ...	63 ...	779 ...	74
8. Absentees and double entries ...	1,206 ...	148 ...	966 ...	138
9. Remaining in default ...	— ...	— ...	— ...	—
10. Balance unaccounted for ...	— ...	— ...	— ...	—

4. Items 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 represent the deficiencies which the Provincial Committee are entitled to deduct when estimating the amount of revenue available for principal and minor works.

5. These deficiencies during the past year represent 13·08 per cent. of the number of men borne on the lists. In 1886 the percentage was 14.

6. The most pleasing feature in the returns now submitted is the very large decrease in the number of men committed to prison during the past year as compared with returns for 1886.

7. This result has been obtained by sending defaulters sentenced to imprisonment to work out their term on irrigation or other public works. The District Road Committee supplies the defaulters with rations, and the Public Works officers pay the Committee 25 cents a day for each man supplied.

8. The arrangement has worked admirably in the Batticaloa District, and I propose continuing it during the current year, and keeping the jails entirely free from offenders of this class.

9. There was not a single instance of desertion from work reported, and in each case task work was exacted and performed.

10. In cases where defaulters were sent to a distance, they were allowed so many days, with rations, for going to and returning from work.

F. C. FISHER,
Chairman.

Provincial Road Committee's Office,
Batticaloa, January 14, 1888.

Revenue raised and appropriated under the authority of the Thoroughfares Ordinances, Nos. 10 of 1861 and 31 of 1884, in the Eastern Province.

BATTICALOA DISTRICT.

REVENUE.	Rs.	c.	EXPENDITURE.	Rs.	c.
Balance on January 1, 1887 ...	944	82	Amount expended on account of principal roads, resthouses, and canals, in money	9,919	0
Commutation recovered in money ...	30,625	16	Do. do. in labour	1,432	50
Do. in labour ...	2,849	50	Amount expended on minor works in money	3,242	70
Resthouse collections	619	15	Do. do. in labour	1,417	0
Miscellaneous receipts	1,179	9	Repairs to resthouses	3,308	40
Government contribution on account of resthouse-keepers' salaries ...	450	0	Salaries of establishment, commission to division officers, &c.	10,017	78
Government contribution in aid of minor works	1,000	0	Pay of resthouse-keepers	2,237	50
			Miscellaneous charges	4,095	91
				35,670	79
			Balance ...	1,996	93
Total ...	37,667	72	Total ...	37,667	72

TRINCOMALEE DISTRICT.

REVENUE.	Rs.	c.	EXPENDITURE.	Rs.	c.
Balance on January 1, 1887 ...	94	38	Amount expended on account of principal roads, resthouses, and canals, in money	1,817	50
Commutation collected in money ...	3,732	0	Do. do. in labour	306	0
Do. in labour ...	360	0	Amount expended on minor works in money	402	36
Resthouse collections	441	47	Do. do. in labour	54	0
Miscellaneous receipts	345	5	Pay of establishment, commission to division officers, &c.	1,815	33
Government contribution on account of resthouse-keepers' salaries ...	450	0	Repairs to resthouses	4	50
Do. in aid of minor works	500	0	Miscellaneous charges	513	75
				4,913	44
			Balance ...	1,009	46
Total ...	5,922	90	Total ...	5,922	90

NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCE.

KURUNÉGALA DISTRICT.

THE working of the new Thoroughfares Ordinance in this District during 1887 shows a more satisfactory result than that which was obtained in 1886. This result I attribute (1) to the transfer of the collections from the division officers to the gaṇ-árachchies, and (2) to the severity with which a full measure of work was exacted from those who committed default in 1886 and were sent to jail.

As a result of placing the lists in the hands of the village headmen, the number returned as liable to work rose from 48,566 to 52,852, giving an increase of 4,286 men. The total number who paid rose from 29,818 to 43,152, giving an increase of 13,334 : which represents an addition to the income of the Committee of Rs. 23,794·50. The number imprisoned went down from 700 to 278, and the number unaccounted for at the end of 1887 was only 414 as against 2,083 at the end of 1886.

It has been very clearly shown that about 80 per cent. of the people can pay if they choose to do so, and it is no kindness to show any indulgence in the working of the Ordinance.

I annex a statement showing how the funds at the disposal of the Committee were expended upon roads and buildings. Among the latter is a native resthouse in Kurunégala for the free use of headmen and villagers who have to attend the courts and kachchéri. Hitherto these people have had to find lodgings wherever they could, or more often to sleep in the verandahs of the court-house. As they are the largest contributors to the funds of the Committee, I trust that as the first step towards considering their wants in respect to accommodation for travellers has now been taken, an annual vote will follow for constructing ambalams in various parts of the District :—

Total number of men	52,852
Paid at Re. 1·50	39,662
Paid at Rs. 3	4,090
Worked on principal and minor roads	3,475
Exempted and discharged	1,086
Casualties	1,372
Left the District	2,053
Imprisoned for default	700
Balance unaccounted for on December 31, 1887	414

		Rs.	c.
Expenditure on principal roads	Money ...	22,805	50
	Labour ...	168	0
Expenditure on minor roads	Money ...	13,523	64
	Labour ...	5,044	50

New Roads.—Makulana road, 6 miles, Wéudawili Hatpattu.
Resthouses.—Native ambalam, Kurunégala town.—Estimated cost Rs. 3,500.

P. A. TEMPLER,
Chairman.

PUTTALAM DISTRICT.

NOTHING could be more satisfactory than the remarkable change effected in this District by the introduction of the Ordinance No. 31 of 1884.

Prior to the introduction of the Ordinance a very large proportion of the persons liable to labour evaded the tax altogether. Year by year the number of defaulters went on increasing, and the greatest possible difficulty was experienced in working off the larger number of defaulters.

In the year 1884 there were no less than 3,107 defaulters at the close of the year, while only 11,283 men performed labour or paid commutation.

The nature of the improvement will be seen from the annexed table :—

	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.
Total on list ...	15,754	16,537	16,789	18,092
Exempted ...	99	211	378	404
Dead, or paid elsewhere, and twice entered...	242	1,496	468	600
Absentees ...	523	—	797	1,017
Total non-effectives ...	864	1,707	1,643	2,021
Effective balance ...	14,890	14,830	15,146	16,071
Paid at single rate ...	10,253	12,985	13,476	14,391
Do. with extra 25 cents ...	503	—	—	—
Paid at double rate ...	349	545	374	528
Performed labour ...	178	867	1,186	1,078
Imprisoned ...	—	91	45	55
Fined ...	—	45	20	13
Outstanding ...	3,607	297	45	6

The increase in the number of men on the division officers' lists is very remarkable: how far it is due to increased strictness under the new Ordinance, and how far to increased population, it is hard to say. There is no doubt that, owing to the development of the District, there has been a vast increase of population due to the immigration of persons crowded out of the Western Province.

But the most important sign of improvement is in the number of men returned as "unaccounted for" at the end of the year. There were 3,607 in 1884, 297 in 1885, 45 in 1886, and 6 in 1887; and those put down as unaccounted for during the past three years have all been subsequently accounted for.

The number of those who paid has increased from 11,105 in 1884 to 14,919 in 1887, and of those who laboured from 178 in 1884 to 1,078 in 1887.

C. M. LUSHINGTON,
Chairman.

Revenue raised and appropriated under the authority of the Thoroughfares Ordinances, Nos. 10 of 1861 and 31 of 1884, in the North-Western Province.

KURUNEGALA DISTRICT.

REVENUE.	Rs.	c.
Balance on January 1, 1887 ...	1,602	74
Commutation realised in money ..	74,685	0
Do. in labour ...	5,212	50
Resthouse collections	1,080	57
Miscellaneous receipts	3,349	57
Government contribution in aid of minor works	534	0
Total ...	86,464	38

EXPENDITURE.	Rs.	c.
Amount expended on account of principal roads, resthouses, and canals, in money	22,805	50
Do. do. in labour	168	0
Amount expended on minor works in money	13,523	64
Do. do. in labour	5,044	50
Repairs to resthouses, &c.	3,580	34
Salaries of establishment, commission to division officers, &c.	19,894	42
Pay of resthouse-keepers	1,665	0
Miscellaneous charges	6,010	68
Expended from Government contribution	532	22
Remitted in settlement of Government contribution	1	78
	73,226	8
Balance ...	13,238	30
Total ...	86,464	38

PUTTALAM DISTRICT.

REVENUE.	Rs.	c.
Balance on January 1, 1887 ...	2,279	23
Commutation realised in money ...	23,395	50
Do. in labour ...	1,617	0
Resthouse collections	646	58
Miscellaneous receipts	406	43
Government contribution in aid of minor works	266	0
Contribution in aid of Mattakotuwa road	200	0
Refund of fine	10	0
Total ...	28,820	74

EXPENDITURE.	Rs.	c.
Amount expended on account of principal roads, resthouses, and canals, in money	6,735	0
Do. do. in labour	463	50
Amount expended on minor works in money	9,716	91
Do. do. in labour	1,153	50
Repairs to resthouses, &c.... ...	2,273	89
Salaries of establishment, commission to division officers, &c.	5,985	48
Pay of resthouse-keepers	1,324	50
Miscellaneous charges	10	0
Balance of grant remitted... ...	2	88
	27,665	66
Balance ...	1,155	8
Total ...	28,820	74

NORTH-CENTRAL PROVINCE.

THE total revenue collected during 1887 under the authority of the Provincial Road Committee is as follows :—

		Rs.	c.
In cash ...	...	25,434	0
In labour ...	...	1,071	0
Arrears of previous years	...	100	50
Miscellaneous receipts	...	138	91
Total	...	26,744	41

The actual expenditure on account of the establishment, petty expenses, and commission paid to division officers, including expenses for the supervision of the minor roads, was Rs. 5,650·40. No Government grant was received in 1887.

The amount paid to the Director of Public Works on account of principal roads and resthouses in cash and labour was Rs. 9,762·55. But the actual expenditure of the Department was Rs. 15,527·55, which includes Rs. 5,744 advanced in December, 1886, on account of the new resthouse and spent in 1887.

The expenditure on minor roads, including balances of votes brought forward from 1886, was Rs. 8,915·32. No new roads were taken up during the year, but the improvement of a section of the western minor road, from being a "natural" road, was carried out.

The total number of labourers who worked during the year under notice was 714. This number is less than that of the labourers during the preceding seven years, viz., 942 in 1886, 984 in 1885, 1,079 in 1884, 1,152 in 1883, 7,707 in 1882, 2,787 in 1881, and 2,018 in 1880. Only twelve defaulters were committed to jail, and four were fined, the figures for 1886 being twelve committed to jail, and two fined. A comparative statement of these figures will appear in the Administration Report of this Province for 1887.

The rent of the market at Anurádhapura fetched Rs. 1,000 in 1886, Rs. 1,010 in 1887, and Rs. 1,550 in 1888. The accumulation of the rent is devoted to extension and improvement of the buildings.

The new resthouse, which was begun in 1886, has now been completed at a cost of about Rs. 11,000, of which the Provincial Road Committee contributed Rs. 6,086. The resthouse collections during the year amounted to Rs. 1,027·49, and the expenditure under the same head was Rs. 2,213·50 (exclusive of the expenditure incurred for the repair of resthouses).

J. J. THORBURN,
for Chairman.

Provincial Road Committee,
Anurádhapura, March 9, 1888.

Revenue raised and appropriated under the authority of the Thoroughfares Ordinances, Nos. 10 of 1861 and 31 of 1884, in the North-Central Province.

NUWARAKALÁWIYA AND TAMANKADUWA DISTRICTS.

REVENUE.	Rs.	c.	EXPENIDTURE.	Rs.	c.
Balance on January 1, 1887 ...	19,588	36	Amount expended on account of principal roads, resthouses, and canals, in money...	14,456	25
Commutation realised in money ...	25,534	50	Do. do. in labour...	1,071	0
Do. in labour ...	1,071	0	Amount expended on minor works ...	8,915	32
Resthouse collections	1,027	49	Repairs to resthouses, &c.... ...	1,288	51
Miscellaneous receipts	138	91	Salaries of establishment, commission to division officers, &c.	5,315	38
Government contribution on account of salaries of resthouse-keepers ...	500	0	Pay of resthouse-keepers	1,392	99
Market collections	767	26	Miscellaneous charges	335	2
			Market payments	506	89
				33,281	36
			Balance ...	15,346	16
Total ...	48,627	52	Total ...	48,627	52

PROVINCE OF UVA.

THE collections of road tax for the last four years are thus compared :—In 1884 Rs. 20,751, in 1885 Rs. 23,452, in 1886 Rs. 26,588, in 1887 Rs. 28,161.

The number of men worked were 4,111 in 1884, 4,666 in 1885, 3,280 in 1886, and 2,884 in 1887.

These figures exhibit a decided tendency, increasing year by year, to pay instead of to work, which speaks to the improving condition of the people, the successful working of the new Ordinance, and its superiority over the old one.

The number of persons reached without penal measures being resorted to is given in the following totals :—

	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.
Worked without compulsion ...	4,110	4,581	3,285	2,884
Paid at single rates ...	10,585	14,666	16,854	18,202
Paid at double rates ...	789	159	127	285
Total ...	15,484	19,406	202,666	21,371

That there were fewer occasions than in previous years for the enforcement of the ultimate penalty the Ordinance provides will be seen from the following figures :—Imprisoned upon failure either to work or to pay: 911 in 1884, 193 in 1885, 152 in 1886, and 59 in 1887. All the available labour was worked within the year, and every person dealt with under the Ordinance, except something under 2 per cent., who managed to evade the execution of warrants.

By calling out additional labour, in a great many instances, and punishment labour always, from the kachchéri direct, and employing it only in such situations as to admit of supervision by European officers, a safeguard against abuses of most common occurrence and of greatest gravity was established. There were very few complaints of oppression by headmen or by overseers.

The following is a comparative statement in detail of the working of the old Ordinance in 1884 and the new one during the three following years :—

	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.
Total number of persons liable according to division officers' lists ...	22,822	22,388	24,308	25,196
Notice to labour (first call) ...	12,000	7,716	7,072	6,994
Responded to notice (first call) ...	4,110	4,581	3,285	2,872
Notice to perform double labour (second call)	—	3,135	830	575
Responded to notice to perform double labour	—	27	70	12
Punished for misconduct ...	—	380	59	50
Received subsistence money or food ...	—	—	—	—
Amount of subsistence money and value of food supplied	—	—	—	—
Exempted	1,239	1,379	925	1,450
Arrested	1,739	217	408	204
Found guilty and sentenced to imprisonment	981	193	152	59
Found guilty and fined ...	—	4	3	2
Amount of fines recovered and credited to Government	—	Rs. 40	Rs. 30	Rs. 20
Commuted single labour ...	10,585	141,667	16,855	18,202
Amount of commutation of single labour paid ...	Rs. 15,877·50	Rs. 22,000·88	Rs. 25,282·50	Rs. 27,303
Commuted double labour ...	2,368	477	381	20
Amount of commutation of double labour paid ...	Rs. 15,021·50	Rs. 1,431	Rs. 1,143	Rs. 858
In default, and remaining unarrested on December 31	1,909	81	183	491
Deaths, absentees, double entries, &c. (number of men)	1,630	1,009	2,395	1,811

A list of the minor works executed with District Road Committee funds is given below :—

Name of Road.	Spent in Money. Rs. c.	In Labour. Rs. c.
Náwala estate to Demódara	100 0	—
First section, Demódara to Monument	200 0	—
Second section, Monument to Náwala	50 0	—
First section, Gaurakçlé to Kanawarçlla	50 0	—
Second section, thence to Máusságala	50 0	—
Third section, thence to Toll Bar, Passara road ...	150 0	—
Badulla to Hindugala	1,000 0	—
First section, Badulla to Kuḍá-oya	375 0	—
Third section, thence to Gaurakçlé	25 0	—
Fifth section, thence *viá* Pinaráwa to Hindugala ...	75 0	—
Badulla to Angoḍa	200 0	—
Haputalé to Wilson's Bungalow	700 0	61 50
Wçlimaḍa to Bandárawela	341 23	96 0
Windy Corner to Bandárawela	100 0	—
Boralanda to Haldummulla	150 0	—
Passara to Monaragala	300 0	136 50
Wçlimaḍa to Amherst Gap	85 80	37 50 160 50
Gawarammána to Kindigoḍa	28 20	178 50
Wçlikamulla to Wéwçlhína	125 0	33 0
First section, Badulla to Dotlands estate... ...	150 0	—
Second section, Dotlands to Kínakçlé	100 0	—
From Gongaltçnna ambalam to Kçtawela ambalam (through Serendib)	200 0	—
Kinakçlé through Sornátoṭa to Taldena-Badulla road ...	150 0	—
From Náwala-Demódara road *viá* Pçpolgashéna to Wéwçlhéna	50 0	—
Koṭakína to Madulla	—	79 50
Passara to Raṇdeniya	—	24 0
Mçdagama *viá* Dambagalla towards Batticaloa ...	—	480 0
Do. *viá* Alupota	—	207 0
Do. *viá* Koṭabowa towards Nilgala ...	—	187 50
Do. *viá* Bibilé	—	115 50
Bibilé to Nilgala	—	145 50
Balagalla to Himbaráwa *viá* Alutnuwara... ...	—	174 0
Taldena through Mígahakiula to Bubula ...	—	121 50
Ridímáliyadda to Ekiriyankumbura	—	123 0
Bibilé *viá* Ridímáliyadda to Bubula	—	132 0
From Bubula *viá* Kuḍáwçwa to join road from Balagalla to Hembarana	—	61 50
Passara to Madulsíma	300 0	—
Alupota *viá* Buttala to Kataragama	100 0	40 50
Aṇgoḍa to Madulsíma	—	188 0

Name of Road.	Spent in Money. Rs. c.	In Labour. Rs. c.
From Lémastoṭa to Bandárawela through Dambaṭenna ...	150 0	—
Uḍa Pusselláwa bridle road	200 0	—
Lower Kandapola road (Horaguna to Gampaha) ...	100 0	18 0
Haldummulla *viâ* Kóngola-Bintenna to Tanamalwila ...	200 0	—
Wéwelhína to junction with Náwala-Demódara road ...	50 0	—
Welimaḍa to Boralanda	100 0	10 50
First section, Hindugala to Ella	75 0	—
Second section, thence to Kumbalwela	100 0	—
Lunugala to Tavalampelessa	100 0	—
Yápama to Uvakelé ambalam	200 0	—
Fort McDonald to Gerandihela	47 50	45 0
New Galway road (contribution)	50 0	—
For bridge over the Kuḍá-oya	1,097 93	—
Bambaragahawela to Hepola	—	109 50
Hidakiula to Kawḍawa	—	37 50
Nákala to Buttala	—	70 50
Alutnuwara to Horaborawewa	—	22 50
Medagama to Nákala	—	174 0
Nilgala to Námal-oya	—	12 0
Mupana to Dambagalla	—	66 0
Alutnuwara to Wéwatta	—	94 50
Sawing timber for bridges	221 46	—
Mileposts	500 0	—
Erection of mileposts	13 60	—
Urgent repairs to minor roads	250 0	—
Amount spent on minor roads before votes were taken ...	380 53	—
	8,991 25	
Overseerage for supervising Ordinance labourers employed on minor roads and repairs of bungalows ...	572 92	—
Total ...	9,564 17	3,393 0

Some excellent work was done upon minor roads mainly through the kind co-operation of managers of estates, who undertook to see the votes upon roads in which they were interested expended to the greatest advantage. All the principal minor roads in the Province were provided with mileposts and direction posts.

Very considerable progress has been made towards perfecting our minor road system within the last few years, and unofficial members of the Road Committee are entitled to the best thanks of the community for their intelligent and unremitting exertions to this end.

Considerable advance was made in the improvement of the road from Badulla to Spring Valley. The Kuḍá-oya was spanned by an iron bridge, which will prove of immense benefit to many hundreds of villagers and estate coolies accustomed to use this road, which, because of the sudden rising of the river in rainy weather, used to be sometimes impracticable for a day or two at a time. It only remains, in order to complete the usefulness of this road, to bridge the Badulla-oya, a rather ambitious undertaking, because of the width of that river at the crossing, but the estates have promised to help, and the Local Board of Badulla would also no doubt contribute funds.

The resthouses throughout the Province were maintained in good order, and some very permanent improvements therein effected. The following is a statement of the expenditure upon resthouses, which are built and maintained wholly from Road Committee funds :—

A.—*Resthouses.*

	In Money. Rs. c	In Labour. Rs. c.
Contribution towards Paṭṭipola resthouse ...	500 0	—
Repair of Haldummulla resthouse	770 0	—
Repair of Wilson's bungalow	502 0	10 50
Repair of Eṭampiṭiya resthouse	22 0	—
Repair of Koslanda	6 0	—
Repair of Bandárawela	15 0	—
Urgent repairs	1,000 0	—
Lunugala resthouse	—	4 50
Fort McDonald resthouse	—	4 50
Taldena resthouse	—	6 0
	2,815 0	25 60

B.—*Bungalows.*

Dambagalla bungalow	13 0	48 0
Mahawediraṭa bungalow	14 10	—
Kandudapanguwa bungalow	34 30	127 50
Hépola ambalam	22 93	3 0
Nilgala bungalow	9 0	51 0
Alutnuwara bungalow	56 50	28 50
Urgent repairs	20 0	—
Nakala bungalow	—	13 50
Alupota bungalow	—	33 0
Bibile bungalow	—	64 60
Bubula bungalow	—	112 50
Kumbukwela ambalam	—	12 0
Medagama bungalow	—	13 50
Kuḍáwewa bungalow	—	30 0
Wéwatta bungalow	—	37 50
Uraniya ambalam	—	12 0
	169 83	586 50

It will be observed that ambalams, or halting places provided for the gratuitous use of native travellers, received no inconsiderable subsidy.

ÆLIAN ARMSTRONG KING,
Chairman.

Kandy, April 14, 1888.

Revenue raised and appropriated under the authority of the Thoroughfares Ordinances, Nos. 10 of 1861 and 31 of 1884, in the Province of Uva.

BADULLA DISTRICT.

REVENUE.	Rs.	c.	EXPENDITURE.	Rs.	c.
Balance on January 1, 1887 ...	6,258	80	Amount expended on account of principal roads, resthouses, and canals, in money...	10,670	26
Commutation realised in money ...	28,466	60	Do. do. in labour...	364	50
Do. in labour ...	4,344	0	Amount expended on minor works in money	9,576	54
Resthouse collections	2,659	99	Do. do. in labour	3,393	0
Miscellaneous receipts	86	20	Repairs to resthouses in money ...	669	83
Government contribution in aid of minor works	800	0	Do. in labour ...	586	50
			Salaries of establishment, commission to division officers, &c.	8,906	97
			Pay of resthouse-keepers	2,918	30
			Miscellaneous charges	4,030	2
				41,115	92
			Balance ...	1,499	67
Total ...	42,615	59	Total ...	42,615	59

REPORTS

ON THE

WORKING OF LOCAL BOARDS DURING 1887.

NEGOMBO.

STATEMENT of Receipts and Expenditure of the Local Board of Negombo for 1887.

RECEIPTS.	Rs.	c.	EXPENDITURE.	Rs.	c.
Balance on December 31, 1886 ...	1,587	54	Police Charges	666	17
Licenses	3,675	81	Sanitary Charges	2,310	36
Taxes	7,460	0	Revenue Services	1,029	0
Fines	452	50	Salaries	1,869	96
Rents	11	0	Office Contingencies	410	43
Slaughter-houses	294	66	Miscellaneous ...	80	40
Miscellaneous	161	3	Law Expenses	124	5
			Public Works	4,515	24
			By balance on December 31, 1887 ...	2,636	93
Total ...	13,642	54	Total ...	13,642	54

(For detailed statement see *Gazette* of February 3, 1888.)

THE revenue for the year 1887 amounted to Rs. 12,055, as against Rs. 8,626·69 for 1886, showing an increase of Rs. 3,428·31, or very nearly 40 per cent. of the revenue for 1886. This increase is mainly due to the extension of the Local Board limits. The limits were extended by Proclamation dated July 31, 1886, and the Local Boards Ordinance came into operation within the extended area from January 1, 1887. Under the head "Commutation Tax" alone there is an increase of Rs. 3,111·25 on the collection for the previous year.

The expenditure for 1887 amounted to Rs. 11,005·61, as against Rs. 10,182·38 in 1886. The increase is attributable to large and useful public works undertaken by the Board. The most noteworthy is the large and substantial storeroom built under the supervision of the Inspector at a cost of Rs. 1,000 for the storage of Local Board stores, &c. Hitherto the Board rented a small house for the purpose, but as a large quantity of kerosine oil was always in stock it was resolved to build a storeroom on the site of the old police barracks. To the north of the storeroom the Board has constructed a carriage room for the hearse at a cost of Rs. 250, and to the south a cattle pound for stray cattle and those intended for slaughter. This latter building cost Rs. 350, and was paid for at the beginning of the year 1888, as it was not quite completed in 1887, though the money for it was voted in the latter year. The next item of importance is the drainage of a portion of Sea street at a cost of Rs. 712·29, which was first undertaken in 1886 in connection with the drainage of Fish Market street. It is the intention of the Board to carry out this very useful sanitary work in sections, as the funds of the Board will not admit of its being completed in a single year. A sum of Rs. 1,202·60 was expended on the general upkeep of roads. This large expenditure is due to the recent extension of the Local Board limits, by which the roads in its charge have increased from 5¾ miles to 10¼ miles. Only one road was gravelled throughout—Grand street—at an expenditure of Rs. 275·52, which had to be done owing to cement drains having been built on either side of this road above its former level, and hence the road had to be raised about a foot and gravelled throughout afresh.

In the estimates for this year the drainage of Green's road has been inserted, and it is intended to spend a sum of Rs. 1,600 on the improvement of this part of the town. It is also resolved to gravel a section of the boundary road (or Wewabodavidiya), a very important thoroughfare, which should have been gravelled by the District Road Committee years ago. When this road is put into thorough order the distance between Kimbulápitiya and say Tópp u will be reduced by about two miles. This work would also have to be undertaken in sections, and a sum of Rs. 1,200 has been voted for its improvement in the estimates for 1888. Another work of importance is the gravelling of Taladúwa road. A good deal of traffic passes along this thoroughfare, and hence the Board has resolved to expend a sum of Rs. 517·22 in gravelling and otherwise improving it. It may be observed that the Board has voted a sum of Rs. 1,000 for the erection of a permanent Jubilee memorial in honour of Her Majesty the Queen, which is to take the shape of a clock tower. The tower alone is estimated to cost Rs. 2,800, out of which the Board contributes, as already stated, Rs. 1,000, and the balance is to be made up by public subscriptions among the inhabitants of the District. This will be a very useful, and, I may add, ornamental work, and it is expected that the

tower will be completed in the course of the year. A committee composed of some of the leading inhabitants of the town has resolved to erect the clock tower in Main street, a little beyond the bridge over the canal.

The only by-law passed by the Board is with reference to the setting of nets at the mouth and channels of the lake. It was duly sanctioned by His Excellency the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, and published for general information in the *Government Gazette* of October 21, 1887. The following is the by-law in question :—" The setting of nets of any kind at the mouth of the lake, or in any of the channels in that area of the lake lying within the limits of the Local Board, is strictly prohibited from sunset on Saturday to sunrise on Monday. Any person committing a breach of this by-law will be liable to a fine under clause 79 of the Ordinance No. 7 of 1876."

The passing of such a by-law had become imperative owing to the constant setting of nets without the observance of any close time, thereby seriously affecting the supply of fish in the lake. This view has been endorsed by two gentlemen who were in the habit of paying periodical visits to Negombo for the purpose of fishing, and the chief fishermen of the town are of the same opinion. The Board originally proposed the passing of a second by-law prohibiting the use of a certain small-meshed and very destructive net called the *rṇa-ḍela*, but Government refused to sanction it as it was *ultrâ vires*. This evil could also be very easily checked by proclaiming the Negombo lake under the provisions of the new Fisheries Ordinance, No. 13 of 1887, passed recently by Government. The prohibition of the use of this net—*rṇa-ḍela*—combined with the strict enforcement of the by-law already passed, would have the effect of increasing the fish supply of the lake.

During last year the Board sustained a serious loss by the death of Mr. Joseph Piris, who sat as unofficial member for over six years. He represented a large section of the Roman Catholics of the town, and was much esteemed and respected by the inhabitants. The vacancy thus caused was filled by the election of Mr. Charles Kirthisiṇha in May, 1887. The term of office of the unofficial members of the Board—Messrs. Koertz, Croos, and Kirthisiṇha—expired on December 31 last, and it was necessary, in terms of the Local Board Ordinance, to hold a general election. This took place on December 3, 1887, when the Hon. the Government Agent, Western Province, presided. Four candidates presented themselves for election—the three sitting members and Mr. A. Fernando, who served as a member some years ago. As there are only three unofficial seats at the Board the result was a severe and spirited contest between the candidates. Eventually the old members were re-elected, but it must be admitted that Mr. Fernando, though defeated, had a large number of votes, and was very ably supported by his constituents. The following statement shows the number of votes recorded in favour of each candidate :—

Mr. G. De Croos	...	307	Mr. C. Kirthisiṇha	...	238
„ J. Koertz	...	284	„ A. Fernando	...	224

It will be seen, on a comparison of the above figures, that Mr. Fernando was defeated by a majority of only fourteen votes.

EVAN MABERLY BYRDE,
Chairman.

KALUTARA.

STATEMENT of Receipts and Expenditure of the Local Board of Kalutara for 1887.

RECEIPTS.	Rs. c.	EXPENDITURE.	Rs. c.
Balance of December 31, 1886 ...	24 33	Revenue Services	183 32
Taxes	3,797 11	Office Contingencies	130 81
Licenses	2,386 55	Law Expenses	40 15
Fines	228 89	Sanitary Charges	2,526 45
Cattle pound	364 20	Salaries	1,688 50
Rents	73 50	Police Charges	92 73
Markets	313 80	Miscellaneous	510 75
Miscellaneous	548 37	Public Works	2,475 56
		By balance on December 31, 1887 ...	88 48
Total ...	7,736 75	Total ...	7,736 75

(For detailed statement see *Gazette* of February 17, 1888.)

THE revenue for 1887 compares favourably with that of the preceding year. The roads within the Local Board limits were kept in good order by an expenditure of about Rs. 800. Of the less important works undertaken by the Board during 1887, the only one worthy of mention is the building of substantial side-drains along the main road and the extension of the side-walks about half way through the town. As the turfing of the borders of the new side-walks would have been impracticable in the heart of a crowded town, it was thought desirable to have the borders paved with granite stone slabs. It was not, however, possible to complete this work for want of funds, but it is hoped ere long the Board will be able to have it finished.

The MacBride system of metalling was tried at the end of the year on one of the Local Board roads much used for wheeled traffic, and a sum of Rs. 218 was expended. It remains to be seen whether the experiment will prove successful.

H. L. CRAWFORD,
Chairman.

RATNAPURA.

STATEMENT of Receipts and Expenditure of the Local Board of Ratnapura from June 1 to December 31, 1887.

RECEIPTS.	Rs.	c.	EXPENDITURE.	Rs.	c.
Revenue	11	50	Salaries	536	22
Licenses	410	89	Office Contingencies	65	52
Miscellaneous	650	0	Stamps	4	90
			Revenue Service	120	0
			Sanitary Charges	214	94
			Public Works	24	45
			Miscellaneous	74	90
			By balance on December 31, 1887 ...	31	46
Total ...	1,072	39	Total ...	1,072	39

(For detailed statement see *Gazette* of February 3, 1888.)

HERBERT WACE,
Chairman.

January 27, 1888.

GAMPOLA.

STATEMENT of Receipts and Expenditure of the Local Board of Gampola for 1887.

RECEIPTS.	Rs.	c.	EXPENDITURE.	Rs.	c.
Balance brought forward	63	68	Office Contingencies	58	30
Taxes	2,419	59	Law Expenses	8	90
Fines	40	75	Revenue Services	209	86
Licenses	487	62	Public Works	357	9
Slaughter-house	595	43	Police Charges	4	29
Miscellaneous	68	55	Sanitary Charges	1,423	22
			Salaries	1,320	0
			By Balance carried forward ...	293	96
Total ..	3,675	62	Total ...	3,675	62

(For detailed statement see *Gazette* of April 6, 1888.)

THE revenue for the year was Rs. 3,675·62, being less than that of 1886 by Rs. 928·38.

The expenditure was Rs. 3,381·66, leaving a balance at the end of the year of Rs. 293·96.

The roads in charge of the Board were maintained in good order throughout the year.

The sanitation of the town was carefully attended to. A public latrine on the dryearth system was maintained during the year. The total expenditure under the head of Sanitation amounted to Rs. 1,423·22.

There was no epidemic during the year, and the health of the people was good.

The water supply being insufficient, the Board has decided to sink a well and erect two pumps. The cost of this work is estimated at Rs. 700.

W. E. T. SHARPE,
Chairman.

NUWARA ELIYA.

STATEMENT of Receipts and Expenditure of the Local Board of Nuwara Eliya for 1887.

RECEIPTS.	Rs.	c.	EXPENDITURE.	Rs.	c.
Balance brought forward	11	71	Office Contingencies	151	86
Licenses	2,501	37	Revenue Charges	272	37
Fines	90	0	Slaughter-house	97	50
Taxes	3,054	30	Sanitary Charges	995	37
Rents	654	25	Nurseries	40	37
Miscellaneous	918	25	Planting out and fencing Plants ...	249	44
			Public Works	2,914	56
			Miscellaneous	251	97
			Salaries	1,462	50
			By balance carried forward ...	793	95
Total ...	7,229	88	Total ...	7,229	88

(For detailed statement see *Gazette* of February 3, 1888.)

THE revenue for the year was Rs. 7,218·17, being Rs. 124·68 in excess of that for 1886, which was augmented by a special item of Rs. 761·60 subscribed for the purchase of trout ova.

The principal increase was in licenses (Rs. 963·30) and assessment taxes (Rs. 58·14).

The expenditure was Rs. 6,435·93, the principal items being:—

	Rs.	c.
General upkeep and petty improvements	1,349	86
Repairs to buildings	902	26
Cost of scavenging	995	37
Cost of establishment	1,462	50
Widening bridge at New bazaar	367	21
Nurseries and planting	289	81

There was a balance under the head of Assets and Liabilities at the end of the year of Rs. 882·75, which was voted towards the permanent Jubilee memorial.

The town was supplied with pure water by the erection of two fountains, one in each of the bazaars. These fountains were a gift from Mr. Le Mesurier to the town.

The experiment of introducing trout into the lake has proved a complete success.

W. E. T. SHARPE,
Chairman.

MATARA.

STATEMENT of Receipts and Expenditure of the Local Board of Mátara for 1887.

RECEIPTS.	Rs	c.	EXPENDITURE.	Rs.	c.
Balance on December 31, 1886 ...	243	52	Salaries	1,529	0
Fines	110	87	Office Contingencies	126	88
Licenses	1,050	96	Public Works	1,683	33
Markets	1,686	96	Sanitary Charges	577	4
Miscellaneous	208	67	Police Charges	918	5
Rents	260	25	Revenue Services	29	96
Taxes	1,615	52	Law Expenses	41	65
			Miscellaneous	105	90
			By Balance carried forward ...	164	94
Total ...	5,176	75	Total ...	5,176	75

(For detailed statement see *Gazette* of February 17, 1888.)

Constitution.—The Board was established on January 1, 1878, and thus with this year completes the first decade of its existence.

It consists of six members, viz., the Chairman (the Assistant Government Agent of the District, *ex officio* in the absence of the Government Agent of the Province), the District Engineer, the Assistant Colonial Surgeon, and three unofficial members elected biennially.

The area within its limits is about 880 acres, and the population by the census of 1881 was 7,522 (or almost equal to the entire population of either the Mannár or Mullaittívu Districts). The population is 8·5 to an acre (and 5·9 to a house), and the town in density of population is the fifth Local Board or Municipal town in the Island.

Revenue and Expenditure.—The revenue of the Board for 1887 was Rs. 4,933·23, as compared with Rs. 4,284·85 for 1886 and with Rs. 5,687·41 the average revenue of ten years.

The expenditure during 1887 was Rs. 5,011·81, as compared with Rs. 5,058·12 in 1886 and with Rs. 5,705·84 the average for ten years.

The decrease in the revenue as compared with the average is principally owing to the discontinuance of the assessment tax under the 27th clause of the Ordinance No. 7 of 1876, which the Board imposed during the years 1880, 1881, and 1882, and then relinquished as not being absolutely necessary. The heads of revenue which show an improvement as compared with 1886 are Taxes (road tax) and Rents, while decreases have occurred under the heads Fines, Licenses, and Markets. These decreases are in great measure accounted for by the several changes which occurred in the office of Inspector and Secretary, which deprived the Board during the latter half of the year of the energy begotten of experience in the collection of its dues.

Though the expenditure was slightly in excess (Rs. 78·58) of the income for the year, owing to the balance brought forward from 1886 there was a balance in hand of Rs. 164·94 at the end of 1887.

There were slight increases in expenditure on lighting, scavenging, and public works, while a saving was effected in the cost of road upkeep, partly owing to a contract being obtained on more favourable terms, and partly to Road Ordinance labour having been more fully made use of by the contractor.

Works.—The length of road in the charge of the Board was about eight miles, and the average cost of upkeep per mile was Rs. 187.

The lighting of the town was improved by the erection of additional lamps, while the cost per lamp was considerably reduced by giving out the work on contract.

Scavenging was satisfactorily attended to, and the sanitation of the town well preserved.

There was fortunately no epidemic disease, and though a few sporadic cases of smallpox occurred, the immediate removal and segregation of the patients prevented the infection being spread.

The number of prosecutions instituted by the Inspector on behalf of the Board was seventy-six.

Meetings.—Only five meetings of the Board were held during the year. Absence of members and want of a quorum on the other dates fixed by the Ordinance for the holding of meetings were the cause of their not being held. The absence of members on these occasions is not due to any insufficiency of interest taken by them in the duties of the Board, but to the fact that there is no sufficient work—where the funds vary so little and can be so regularly applied—as to require twelve meetings during the year to regulate their disposal.

The attendance of members was as follows:—Chairman attended five meetings, District Engineer two, Assistant Colonial Surgeon three, Mr. Jonathan Silva three, Mr. F. Wickremeratne five, Mr. G. E. Keuneman five.

On December 1, 1887, a meeting of electors was held for the purpose of electing unofficial members for the two years commencing January 1, 1888, and the meeting resulted in the re-election without contest of the outgoing members, namely:—Mr. Jonathan Silva, Mr. Fred. Wickremeratne, Mr. G. E. Keuneman.

Establishment.—As mentioned above, the Inspector, Mr. R. Tillekeratne, resigned on obtaining promotion on July 31, and from then to the end of the year different arrangements, combining the posts of Secretary and Inspector, were from time to time made. The Secretary, Mr. Auwardt, was also unfortunately obliged to go on sick leave early in November; and the Board thus lost the services and experience of two valuable servants during the year, while the temporary appointments for the performance of their duties, as is unavoidably the case with such appointments, were greatly to the disadvantage of the Board.

The percentage which the cost of the establishment bears to the revenue is 31 per cent., showing an undue proportion of income devoted to salaries. It has now been decided to reduce the establishment by combining the posts of Inspector and Secretary.

General.—As a test of the capacity of natives for self-government, the Local Board at Mátara cannot as yet be said to be an entire success. It is a most useful institution, but I am afraid has not done much during the ten years of its existence to develope those qualities which were expected, and which would in time fit the people to govern themselves. It is trusted that, by conferring on them

even this small measure of self-government, by slow degrees new generations will acquire the *morale*, freedom from personal influence, and devotion to duty which are the essentials of a governing class, and which it cannot be denied are at present conspicuously wanting in most native characters. Physically and intellectually fit, they have only to educate these qualities, and larger careers—not only in Ceylon—will most certainly be open to them. A seat on the Board should not therefore be regarded either as an empty honour, or still less as an office merely conferring so many opportunities of providing for poor relations or obliging needy friends, but as a post of duty in which not only good work can be done, but qualities essentially necessary to the progress of the nation can best be learnt.

Local Board Office,
Mátara, February 18, 1888.

H. P. BAUMGARTNER,
Chairman.

BATTICALOA.

STATEMENT of Receipts and Expenditure of the Local Board of Batticaloa for 1887.

RECEIPTS.	Rs.	c.	EXPENDITURE.	Rs.	c.
Balance on December 31, 1886 ...	49	95	Law Expenses	23	85
Fines	144	65	Office Contingencies	148	87
Licenses	2,076	72	Police Charges	40	12
Miscellaneous	340	47	Maintenance of Roads	1,681	49
Rents	1,587	18	Markets	1,284	56
Taxes	2,246	50	Revenue Services	470	54
			Salaries	1,197	20
			Sanitary Charges	859	32
			Miscellaneous	700	40
			By Balance carried forward ...	39	12
Total ...	6,445	47	Total ...	6,445	47

THE maintenance and improvements of roads, bridges, &c., has been the principal care of the Board. I extract from the report of the officer in charge of works the following particulars :—

ROADS, STREETS, AND BRIDGES.

Repairs.—The whole of the roads in Kóḍḍaimunai were re-gravelled during the past year, the length being over 8½ miles and the quantity of gravel used 16,860 bushels.

The roads in Puliyantivu were repaired, but most of them did not require complete gravelling. The following roads were, however, completely coated, viz., Shroff road, Crowther road, Jail road, and portions of the Lakeshore road, in all about two miles in length. The Bazaar road was thoroughly gravelled twice during the year.

The banks of the U'rani and Kóḍḍaimunai Lakeshore road, which had been greatly damaged during the rains, were filled in and turfed, and protected by stakes and brushwood.

New Works.—A new road, 200 ft. long and 16 ft. wide, was opened parallel to the Jail road, in place of a narrow lane only 6 ft. wide.

Thirteen wooden culverts, which were in a dangerous condition, were taken up and replaced by permanent brick culverts.

The market was extended, and now provides double the previous accommodation. The roof of the old market was also considerably repaired and altered, the old tile floor was taken up and a concrete one substituted with passages laid out, and stalls raised for vendors.

Seats and Trees.—Twenty seats were placed on the esplanade and at other parts of the Local Board district for the use of the public, and many dead trees were cut down on the esplanade and new trees planted.

Labour.—Very little paid labour was employed, except overseers and occasionally blacksmiths and other skilled workmen.

One hundred and sixteen men performed six days' labour each under the Labour Ordinance. They were employed in excavating gravel and spreading it on the roads. The bulk of the labour was performed by prisoners.

ALLANSON BAILEY,
Chairman.

TRINCOMALEE.

STATEMENT of Receipts and Expenditure of the Local Board of Trincomalee for 1887.

RECEIPTS.	Rs.	c.	EXPENDITURE.	Rs.	c.
Balance on December 31, 1886 ...	2,546	42	Law Expenses	101	60
Fines	306	0	Miscellaneous	242	50
Licenses	1,314	62	Office Contingencies	178	51
Markets	511	32	Police Charges	20	9
Miscellaneous	87	75	Public Works	1,909	66
Rents	207	71	Revenue Services	360	15
Taxes	3,603	0	Salaries	970	0
			Sanitary Charges	2,477	74
			By balance on December 31, 1887 ...	2,316	57
Total ...	8,576	82	Total ...	8,576	82

(For detailed statement see *Gazette* of February 17, 1888.)

Its income consists of taxes which have always been imposed and which, instead of being added to the general revenue of the Island, are refunded by Government. The road tax, which forms the largest source, is appropriated by the Board instead of by the District Road Committee. The Board does not throw any additional burden on the people in the shape of fresh taxes.

A large saving has been effected in the item of road upkeep without impairing the condition of the roads, and with this the Board will be able to carry out a long-felt want in the town, viz., the building of a public market. The present cadjan sheds are far too small for the increasing number of people who resort thither. A commodious masonry building would not only give better shelter to the market people, but be a source of additional income to the Board. The sheds now bring in a rent of Rs. 500 a year, which itself is a handsome return for the Rs. 3,000 to be laid out in the buying of land and erection of a building with improved shelter and accommodation.

The operations of the Board throughout the year have been confined principally to road upkeep, repairs to bridges, and draining low ground. The stagnant water which accumulates in the latter emits a most offensive smell, and must be the source of sickness. The worst of these, near the Kandaswami temple, has been emptied by the cutting of a drain into one of the main sewers. The flat nature of the ground on which the greater part of the town is built, and its low sea-level, make the question of drainage a very difficult one to deal with. The drains are constantly silting up, and require the most careful attention in clearing out.

Another necessary improvement is the lighting of the streets. Two kerosine street lamps have been fixed as an experiment, one at the cross roads near the court-house and another at the Customs landing jetty.

The two large native "madams" or resthouses in the town at Kantalai and Mariamma-kóvil, built many years ago by the generosity of native residents, are in need of repair, and I would strongly recommend that a small sum of money be set apart for that purpose. They are much frequented by travellers passing through from India and elsewhere.

The planting of shade trees along some of the principal roads would also be a great improvement, as it would add to the picturesque appearance of the place as well as afford a grateful shade to foot passengers.

List of the principal roads gravelled by the Local Board during 1887 :—

Small Bazaar street	Kandasami Temple road
Oilmongers' street	Court-house road
Main street	Admiralty road
Moor street	Big Bazaar street
Cemetery road	Barrack Square road
Mudaliyar's street	

C. A. MURRAY,
Chairman.

KURUNEGALA.

STATEMENT of Receipts and Expenditure of the Local Board of Kurunégala for 1887.

RECEIPTS.	Rs.	c.	EXPENDITURE.	Rs.	c.
Balance on December 31, 1886 ...	2,536	99	Law Expenses	236	55
Fines	453	0	Office Contingencies	462	10
Licenses	4,453	92	Miscellaneous	1,232	60
Miscellaneous	254	64	Police Charges	17	62
Repayment of Advances... ...	156	74	Public Works	3,796	66
Refund	132	15	Revenue Services	328	2
Rent	10	75	Refund	1	0
Slaughter-house	621	24	Salaries	2,639	99
Taxes	3,507	53½	Sanitary Charges	1,048	15
			By balance on December 31, 1887 ...	2,364	17½
Total ...	12,126	96½	Total ...	12,126	96½

(For detailed statement see *Gazette* of February 17, 1888.)

Roads.—Three sections of roads have since 1886 been added by the extension of the town limits. An approach road to the cattle pound, 75 ft. long, has been constructed with a slab culvert, 3 ft. span. The town roads have been kept in good order and repair throughout the year.

To meet the charge for the maintenance of the roads, the receipts on account of commutation during 1887 amounted to Rs. 1,921.

Drainage.—The drains on both sides of the Bazaar street have been completed, and the erection of a reservoir for flushing the drains has been taken in hand, water for the purpose being obtained from the tank by means of pump and pipes.

Buildings.—All the buildings belonging to the Board have been kept in repair and order. An eight-day clock with two dials has been placed on the jail wall for the benefit of the public.

Public Lands.—All public lands have been regularly kept clean, the roads in the esplanade have been fully gravelled and four new garden seats added.

Sanitation.—The streets have been regularly swept and scavenged.

Planting.—Ornamental trees have been planted along the esplanade roads.

G. W. TEMPLER,
Chairman.

PUTTALAM.

STATEMENT of Receipts and Expenditure of the Local Board of Puttalam for 1887.

RECEIPTS.	Rs.	c.	EXPENDITURE.	Rs.	c.
Fines	138	50	Advances	1,060	0
Licenses	4,784	0	Allowances	220	0
Markets	1,753	78	Law Expenses	82	0
Miscellaneous	75	43	Office Contingencies	68	69
Refunds	14	0	Public Works	3,516	47
Rents	251	60	Refund	4	0
Schools	217	85	Revenue Services	1,231	0
Taxes	4,317	23	Salaries	2,548	75
Balance on January 1, 1887... ...	171	82	Sanitary Charges	1,756	68
			Police Charges	27	82
			Jubilee Memorial Fund	1,000	0
			Amount struck off as irrecoverable ...	85	20
			By balance on December 31, 1887 ...	123	60
Total ...	11,724	21	Total ...	11,724	21

(For detailed statement see *Gazette* of February 24, 1888.)

Establishment.—The charges for establishment have always, in my opinion, been too high, and a considerable reduction will be effected in 1888.

Roads.—The cost of upkeep and repair of roads is just covered by the receipts on account of commutation tax, and all the roads are now well planted with shade trees, which require to be constantly watered during the long droughts which prevail in Puttalam.

Works.—Among other works carried out during the year were—

(1) Improvements to the waterworks.
(2) The building of a gála.
(3) Improvements of the school building.

The Board gave a vote of Rs. 1,000 towards the extension of the waterworks through the town of Puttalam as a memorial of the jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen. This vote was met by a public subscription. Four new wells in convenient situations in different parts of the town were constructed, and piping bought to connect these wells with the existing system. These extensions when complete will be a great boon to the inhabitants. A sum of Rs. 240 was also spent in repairs to the existing reservoir.

The gála was a want much felt. Cattle used to be tethered in enclosures in the very heart of the town, often causing an intolerable nuisance. A public gála was built on the plain outside the town with a shelter for carters and a latrine behind. The nuisance is thus removed from the town, while the Board derives a handsome revenue from the rent of the gála.

The old school building was miserably small and inconvenient, the school mistress's quarters consisting of a single sitting room and bedroom with a tiny lumber or storeroom, the wall of which, separating it from the kitchen, did not reach the roof. This has been all altered: an additional room built on, a detached building put up for a kitchen, and the bathroom thoroughly repaired.

The commission for collection of commutation tax was too high, and has been reduced in 1888

The scavenging of the town was well and efficiently carried out, and has materially improved the healthiness of the place. Recent visitors to Puttalam, who have known the town many years ago, have expressed their surprise in seeing the great improvement in the general appearance of the place. The town is clean, the roads kept in good order, swamps are filled up and planted, shade trees are growing all along the roads, there is a good market for vegetables and fruit, and another in a very suitable spot built on piles and projecting out into the lake for the sale of fish.

The health of the town has been good, the only epidemic being chickenpox, of which there were a few cases.

C. M. LUSHINGTON,
Chairman.

BADULLA.

STATEMENT of Receipts and Expenditure of the Local Board of Badulla for 1887.

RECEIPTS.	Rs.	c.	EXPENDITURE.	Rs.	c.
Balance on December 31, 1886 ...	943	33	Salaries	750	0
Taxes	3,333	52	Office Contingencies	223	92
Stamp Duty on licenses, &c. ...	1,303	72	Revenue Services	340	30
Slaughter-house receipts	714	50	Police Charges	30	39
Grazing cattle	132	25	Sanitation	1,020	82
Fines	220	50	Public Works	277	6
Reimbursements	10	51	New works	1,034	28
Redemption of dogs seized... ...	12	0	Town water-supply	121	28
Rents	151	59	Town Hall	2,010	15
Incidental collections	9	54	Miscellaneous	259	6
			By balance on December 31, 1887 ...	764	20
Total ...	6,831	46	Total ...	6,831	46

(For detailed statement see *Gazette* of February 17, 1888.)

THE decrease in the revenue for 1887 was principally owing to the fact that comparatively few carts were licensed in Badulla in the latter year. In general revenue also the toll-rents for 1886 fetched more than for 1887 by Rs. 4,000.

The following is a comparative statement of Road Ordinance labour due within Local Board limits, worked, and commuted, during 1886 and 1887 :—

	1886. Rs. c.	1887. Rs. c.
Amount estimated	2,318 0	2,382 0
By additional rate	93 0	96 50
Total ...	2,411 0	2,478 50

	1886. Rs. c.	1887. Rs. c.	Increase. Rs. c.	Decrease. Rs. c.
Amount recovered ...	1,575 0	1,628 50	53 50	—
Labour	148 0	138 0	—	10 0
Dealt with by Police Court	96 0	52 0	—	44 0
Exemptions	46 0	50 0	4 0	—
Deaths	4 0	10 0	6 0	—
Absentees	542 0	550 0	8 0	—
Paid to other division officers ...	—	46 0	46 0	—
Double entry ...	—	4 0	4 0	—
Total ...	2,411 0	2,478 50		

Up to February 28 people had the option of paying Rs. 2 instead of working six days on the roads. After that date the sum recoverable was Rs. 2·50.

As in the two previous years, every case was dealt with within the year.

The statement shows an increase in the number of persons who paid, and a corresponding decrease in the number of workers.

The progress of assessment tax collections is thus shown :—

	Rs. c.
One year's tax, 1887	1,525 74
Arrears on December 31, 1886, less exemptions	165 14
Collected in 1887, less compensation from Government in lieu of tax ...	1,354 2
Due on December 31, 1887	336 86

The following is a statement of expenditure upon local works of improvement during 1887 :—

	Rs. c.
Construction of new latrines	539 0
Repairs and improvements to roads and bridges	669 53
Upkeep of water supply	121 28
Clipping and dressing ornamental hedges	8 0
Repairs to bathing places	15 90
Compensation for damages done to private property in opening the Jubilee road	59 11
Compensation for land taken for Cemetery road	20 0
Repairs to garden benches	36 47
Fencing and protecting ornamental trees, &c.	90 25
Painting signboards for streets and fixing same	62 40
General conservancy	966 62
Total ...	2,588 56

One really good road was opened during the year, viz., the Jubilee road, leading from the Badulla-Batticaloa road to the Experimental Gardens. Another fine road was cut for about three-quarters of a mile from near the police station to the new cemetery; it is 22 ft. wide, and work on it has made great progress.

A footpath from King street leading to the workshop behind the Provincial Engineer's house was widened and made passable for carts. A path round the fields near the Union Club was widened into a road, and two small wooden bridges constructed upon it. Repairs were effected to Jansz lane, North lane, South lane, Bailey road, and Russell road.

Two culverts were constructed on the last-named road and one on the Circular road.

The Town Hall was thrown open to the public, and was frequently used. Aided by the balance handed over by the Jubilee Committee, the Board will be able this year to adopt a handsome design by Mr. Spooner, the Provincial Engineer, for the completion of the building.

The Board voted Rs. 631·75 towards the celebration of Her Majesty's jubilee, which was celebrated in Badulla by loyal thousands.

The Board had under consideration a scheme for bringing a supply of pure water into the town, which is one of vital importance. It is in possession of plans and estimates, and is in correspondence with Government on the question of cost.

The public health was not satisfactory, owing to the prevalence of fever, dysentery, chicken-pox, and measles. There were a large number of deaths from the first-mentioned two causes.

The sanitation of the town was good, owing to the system of flushing drains initiated in 1886 being rigidly carried out. One new cement drain running past the jail was constructed during the year.

Two excellent latrines were built this year in localities frequented by natives, and a special officer retained to detect and prosecute cases of nuisance. Forty-seven persons were charged, and convictions were secured in nearly every case. 193 stray cattle were seized. 86 stray dogs were seized, of which 66 were destroyed by shooting.

Some improvement in bazaar trade was noticeable, and new boutiques were opened during the year.

Æ. A. KING,
Chairman.

Chairman.

PART II.—SCIENTIFIC.

PUBLIC WORKS.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS FOR 1887.

DURING the year 1887 the total expenditure of the Department of Public Works has been Rs. 2,586,941·33, being Rs. 13,681·28 less than that of the previous year—a decrease of ·52 per cent.

	1887.		1886.		Increase.		Decrease.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Establishment, including allowances and contingencies	315,238	51	283,819	1	31,419	50	—	
Upkeep of roads, bridges, canals, and irrigation works	938,256	39	945,787	20	—		7,530	81
Repairs of buildings	114,814	31	117,151	89	—		2,337	58
Departmental charges, and miscellaneous ...	189,044	88	163,169	73	25,875	15	—	
New works and buildings	119,676	10	131,492	25	—		11,816	15
Alterations and additions to buildings ...	41,446	91	62,989	70	—		21,542	79
New roads and additions to roads ...	245,140	29	262,700	34	—		17,560	5
New bridges	100,924	57	107,787	42	—		6,862	85
Irrigation works	522,399	37	525,725	7	—		3,325	70
Total ...	2,586,941	33	2,600,622	61	57,294	65	70,975	93

The funds from which the expenditure has been met are as follows :—

	1887.		1886.		Increase.		Decrease.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Supply Bill, 1887	1,736,290	53	1,871,468	87	—		135,178	34
Supplementary Supply Bill, 1887 ...	164,198	49	77,654	83	86,543	66	—	
Unexpended balances of previous years ...	258,494	33	166,189	76	92,304	57	—	
Road Ordinance funds	236,063	53	233,800	92	2,262	61	—	
Private contributions	29,103	96	16,469	71	12,634	25	—	
Loan Board funds	13,525	17	18,870	81	—		5,345	64
Savings Bank loan	147,004	59	207,417	65	—		60,413	6
From other Departments	2,260	73	4,675	93	—		2,415	20
From vote for Colombo Waterworks ...	—		4,074	13	—		4,074	13
Total ...	2,586,941	33	2,600,622	61	193,745	9	207,426	37

The expenditure in each Province, including the cost of Establishment divided proportionately over the Provinces, is as follows :—

Province.	1887.		1886.		Increase.		Decrease.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Western	682,214	39	752,587	27	—		70,372	88
North-Western	198,729	52	190,921	69	7,807	83	—	
Southern	243,733	17	223,111	9	20,622	8	—	
Eastern	161,142	29	156,671	27	4,471	2	—	
Northern	197,104	46	223,492	17	—		26,387	71
North-Central	357,223	95	426,458	15	—		69,234	20
Central	454,606	79	445,526	93	9,079	86	—	
Uva	292,186	76	181,854	4	110,332	72	—	
Total ...	2,586,941	33	2,600,622	61	152,313	51	165,994	79

I annex a diagram showing the details of expenditure in the Department since the year 1840, as well as the total expenditure and the cost of Establishment. Items included under this heading :—

	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Fixed Salaries	156,548	10		
Provisional Salaries	153,627	43		
			310,175	53
Allowances	2,640	0		
Office Contingencies	2,422	98		
			5,062	98
Total ...			315,238	51

NEW ROADS.

The following is a brief account of some of the principal operations of last year.

A sum of Rs. 245,140·29 was expended in the construction of new roads and in additions and improvements to roads. The Nambapána road, which, when completed, will connect Pánaduré and Ratnapura and open up extensive tracts of valuable forest land, was extended a distance of three miles from Kurugammódara. The Trincomalee-Anurádhapura road has been completed, and so has the Waṭagoḍa-Pundalu-oya road. The Wellawáya-Monarágala road, which, as surveyed, is twenty-four miles in length, was begun, and four miles were completed. Many important improvements were effected to existing roads, all of which are enumerated in the following statement :—

Statement of Expenditure on New Roads, and Improvement to Roads.

	Rs.	c.
Converting a portion of the Kompasu-pára into a natural road ...	2,548	67
Opening a further portion of Nambapána road extension ...	14,672	94
Opening road from Ruanwella to Attanagalla	5,000	0
Completing the Morawak kóralé road present terminus to Wihárahéna bazaar	2,008	21
Widening the Yaṭiyantoṭa road	3,837	22
Repair of some damage caused to the Bulatkohopiṭiya road ...	1,896	60
Completing the Trincomalee-Anurádhapura road, Eastern Province ...	6,395	25
Raising the roadway between Elephant Pass and Pallai ...	986	58
Metalling the road from Elephant Pass to Iranamaḍu ...	4,993	70
Repairing and enlarging culverts along the road between Pérádeniya and Náraṇhéna	2,779	5
Constructing the Waṭagoḍa-Pundalu-oya road	47,775	21
Compensation for land taken up for the construction of the Waṭagoḍa Pundalu-oya road	3,333	73
Forming halting stations on the road from Nánu-oya to Nuwara Eliya...	130	56
Improvement of the Trincomalee-Anurádhapura road, North-Central Province	14,981	98
Improvement of the Kurunégala road from Anurádhapura to the 5th milepost	4,898	91
Improvement of the Akkarai pattu road	2,281	20
Extending the Bulatkohopiṭiya road	764	8
Completing the Waṭagoḍa-Pundalu-oya road	23,817	72
Raising the roadway at Imbulgoḍayágama tank on the Páḍeniya-Anurádhapura road	1,395	9
Metalling the Badulla-Batticaloa road	670	86
Additional works to Mannár causeway	1,182	77
Completion of the works on the Mannár-Maḍawachchiya road ...	2,833	52
Protecting the roadway at 30th mile, Pussellawa-Ramboḍa road ...	920	14
Improvements, &c., to Lémastoṭa road	4,597	39
Improvements to the Lower Badulla road	10,116	56
Constructing road from St. Margaret's to Uḍa-Pussellawa estate ...	959	87
Converting the bridlepath from Koṭṭáwa to Uḍagama into a cart road	4,000	0
Constructing road from Wellawáya to Monarágala	13,698	92
Constructing bridle road between Umá-oya and Uḍa Pussellawa ...	3,777	23
Metalling the North-Central road	21,986	92
Widening the road from Hatton junction bridge towards Dikoya bazaar	5,620	0
Widening the road from Hatton to Dikoya junction	4,019	0
Improvement of the Tebuwana-Néboḍa trace	4,694	69
Repair of the Karaitívu-Veriyáḍi road	7,325	58
Improving portions of the 82nd and 83rd miles on the Puttalam-Trincomalee road	1,994	4
Certain works on the Trincomalee-Anurádhapura road ...	694	25
Improving road between Buttulu-oya and Rájakaḍaluwa ...	4,529	6
Extending the cart road through Kintyre to the Maskeliya bridge ...	2,130	88
Improvements to Akkarai pattu road	142	59
Improvement of the South Coast road in the Batticaloa district ...	3,049	97
Completing the works in the section of the North Coast road ...	1,699	35
Total ...	245,140	29

BRIDGES.

An expenditure of Rs. 100,924·57 was incurred in the construction of new bridges. In the Western Province, that over the Sítáwaka (285 ft. in length) was completed (opened early in January, 1888), and the work of substituting iron for timber bridges was continued on the Ratnapura road. The bridge over the Kelani-gaṇga at Karawanella was advanced considerably, notwithstanding an unfavourable season for river works in the Kelani Valley. The bridging of the Maskeliya river at Kintyre was somewhat delayed, and a serious disaster, involving loss of life, occurred through one of the transverse beams of the staging giving way under strain during the erection of the ironwork. The large bridge over the Kehelgama-oya in Ambagamuwa was completed and opened for traffic. The attempt, in October, to re-erect the centre span of the Kalá-oya bridge on the road between Anurádhapura and Puttalam proved a failure, and somewhat disastrous owing to bungling. The Inspector in charge has since been degraded.

Statement of New Bridges.

	Rs.	c.
Substituting timber bridging by iron on the Avisáwélla-Ratnapura road	4,925	48
Erecting a 9-ft. bridge on the Koṭadeniyáwa road	930	32
Bridge over the Kelani at Karawanella	33,252	49
Erecting buckled plate iron bridges, Negombo district... ...	2,124	61
Erecting a buckled plate bridge for flood outlet, Galle	2,499	43
Erecting a bridge over the Maskeliya-gaṇga	17,768	80
Constructing foot-bridges between Akkarai pattu and Sembatta estate	494	17
Completion of the Sítáwaka bridge	20,782	27
Constructing a bridge at Dikapiṭiya on the Lémastoṭa road ...	5,053	58
Erecting a cart road bridge over the Kehelgama-oya	8,657	17
Completing re-erection of Kala-oya bridge	4,436	25
Total ...	100,924	57

NEW BUILDINGS.

Hospitals.

Hospitals for the Kelani Valley and Madulsima-pea districts have been completed. A convict hospital for the Bógambra jail, Kandy, is being built by convict labour; and the infirmary for the New Lunatic Asylum was completed.

Other Buildings and Works.

The Puttalam Kachchéri and a Post Office at Hatton have been finished, and a line of telegraph has been constructed to Negombo by the Postal Department. Wharf improvements have been in progress for passengers landing and embarking, and a new export jetty has been advancing steadily.

Statement of New Works and Buildings.

	Rs.	c.
Permanent cooly lines in the Avisáwélla district ...	677	77
Erection of a jetty, Colombo Customs... ...	13,130	49
Improvements to the Colombo Customs	12,419	3
Repairs to the new passenger jetty	1,744	34
Temporary jetty, Colombo Customs	1,930	0
Constructing a line of telegraph from Colombo to Negombo ...	10,840	0
Powder magazine at Puttalam	222	43
Hospital in the Demala hatpattu for paraugi disease	1,485	0
Medical officer's quarters and dispensary at Kalmunai ...	2,300	0
Residence for sub-collector, Pésálai	2,494	47
Postal accommodation at Hatton	5,028	88
Powder magazine, Nuwara Eliya	871	53
Outhouse accommodation for the medical officer, Lindula ...	424	6[illegible]
Completing the new kachchéri at Puttalam	6,856	89
Police lines, Jaffna	294	87
Restoring the Karaiúr reclamation wall	1,199	67
Re-constructing the grain shed, Jaffna	607	11
Extending the wall of the general cemetery at Mahaiyáwa ...	2,326	32
Jail hospital at Bógambra	5,957	28
Hospital for Avisáwélla district	9,151	8
Hospital and medical officer's quarters, Lunugalla	2,805	95
Infirmary and outhouses, right wing, new lunatic asylum ...	12,972	88
Erection of dormitories and single rooms, new lunatic asylum ...	691	69
Infirmary, left wing, new lunatic asylum	163	62
Water-supply do.	1,516	85
For repairs and alterations do.	668	99
For certain works to do.	4,849	17
Alterations to medical officer's quarters, new lunatic asylum ...	1,197	0
Temporary shed for housing calves for the purpose of carrying out animal vaccination	475	0
Completing new resthouse, Anurádhapura	4,273	59
Temporary bungalow for the resthouse-keeper at Mihintalé ...	99	58
Total ...	119,676	10

INLAND NAVIGATION.

Under this heading are included the maintenance and improvement of canals. There are 172·25 miles, and they cost Rs. 28,088·17 to maintain. Added to this a special sum of Rs. 4,995·58 was spent in the work of deepening and otherwise improving the canal between Tóppu and Puttalam.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

Particulars of the general annual maintenance of public buildings are to be found in the following statement. The expenditure has been Rs. 65,483·13, and a further sum of Rs. 12,012·47 has been devoted to improvements and additions.

Statement of Public Buildings repaired.

	Rs.	c.
Repairs to the court-house at Tangalla	37	81
Do. offices of the provincial registrar and registrar of lands, Batticaloa	399	23
Completing the well in the smallpox hospital premises, Batticaloa ...	14	99
Limewashing the Supreme Court, Colombo	75	80
Repairs to the police magistrate's house, Galagedara	200	0
Do. police court, Galagedara	95	0
Certain works at the old lunatic asylum	15	44
Repairs to the Public Works Department bungalow at Pelmadulla ...	264	80
Do. sub-collector's house, Béruwala	223	0
Building a brick drain at the Assistant Government Agent's quarters, Mátalé	90	0
Repairs to the district judge's house at Tangalla	30	68
Do. court-house at Panwila	336	68
Repairs, &c., to the Gampola civil hospital	340	0
Repairing and painting the Colonial Secretary's offices, Colombo ...	1,978	43
Repairs to the church at Kalpitiya	908	0
Do. at Puttalam	329	29
Upkeep of cooly bungalows, North-Central Province	476	16
Immediate and urgent repairs to public buildings in the North-Central Province	959	3
Do. do. in the Central Province	1,892	44
Do. do. Nuwara Eliya district...	499	85
Repairs to the kitchen and garden gate at the civil hospital, Puttalam	157	0
Do. do. Máráwila hospital ...	92	97
Immediate and urgent repairs to public works and buildings in the peninsula of Jaffna	1,673	20
Do. do. in the Mannár, Vavuniya, and Mullaittívu districts	690	57

	Rs.	c.
Whitewashing the Pass Pyl beacon	35	44
Completion of the Government Agent's stables and the erection of hoods, Kurunégala	726	86
Rebuilding coir-beating shed at Batticaloa jail	193	51
Providing a guttering to the sub-collector's house, Kayts ...	92	30
Repairs to the Assistant Government Agent's house, Kégalla ...	830	0
Do. civil hospital, Colombo	460	0
Immediate and urgent repairs to public buildings in the Province of Uva	1,386	92
Do. do. North-Western Province...	977	76
Whitewashing hospitals in the Northern Province	260	53
Do. in the Uva Departmental Province ...	237	22
Do. at Anurádhapura and Mihintalé ...	139	0
Limewashing the leper asylum at Hendala	79	46
Whitewashing the Government civil hospital at Negombo ...	109	64
Repairs to the medical officer's quarters, Chilaw	123	97
Do. resident surgeon's quarters, Batticaloa	170	83
Do. stables of the Supreme Court Judges' bungalow, Kandy	87	19
Do. district judge's house at Puttalam	128	72
Do. Government civil hospital buildings at Vavuniya-Vilánkulam	310	0
Painting the woodwork of the Béruwala dispensary	22	0
Repairs to the post and telegraph office, Nuwara Eliya ...	582	85
Do. district judge's house, Chilaw	1,949	13
Immediate and urgent repairs to public buildings in the Southern Province	1,242	62
Do. do. Eastern Province	1,293	16
Whitewashing civil hospitals in the Eastern Province	178	77
Repairs to the district judge's residence, Jaffna	492	52
Whitewashing, tarring, and pipe-claying the hospitals in the Southern Province	509	43
Painting the lighthouse, Galle	634	5
Repairs to the flagstaff at Hambantota ...	198	79
Do. Colombo	150	0
Do. Colombo Customs buildings	479	15
Do. Borella lunatic asylum	246	62
Do. Museum, Colombo	188	72
Do. civil hospital, Colombo	250	0
Immediate and urgent repairs to public buildings in the Colombo, Negombo, Kalutara, and Avisáwélla districts	1,800	76
Repairs to the Welikada jail	281	42
Do. grain-shed and Custom-house, Colombo ...	169	64
Do. court-house at Trincomalee	191	5
Do. preventive station at Negombo	19	79
Do. flagstaff and buildings, Trincomalee	85	99
Do. Government cattle-shed, Ratnapura	219	1
Do. jetties at Galle	999	52
Replanking the well at the Kalutara jail	62	73
Repairs to the registrar of lands' office, Ratnapura	81	38
Whitewashing the district court, Kalutara	77	71
Repairs to the police magistrate's house, Pasyála	54	0
Do. sub-collector's house, Káykésanturai	395	5
Do. civil hospital at Hambantota	170	0
Whitewashing hospitals at Kégalla, Pánaduré, and Kalutara ...	163	93
Repairs to the fort at Mannár	97	39
Do. recordroom of the district court, Mátara ...	47	64
Do. Government civil hospital buildings, Kandy ...	111	92
Do. district judge's bungalow, Kégalla	430	86
Do. Public Works Department bungalow, Ambanpitiya ...	139	97
Do. civil medical store, Borella	485	0
Do. Government Agent's residence, Batticaloa ...	304	24
Do. kachchéri buildings at Kégalla	156	0
Certain works to the civil medical store	20	0
Repairs to the leper asylum, Hendala	700	0
Do. Public Works Department bungalow, Batticaloa ...	450	49
Do. approach road to police magistrate's bungalow, Panwila ...	162	21
Gravelling the paths of the general cemetry, Negombo	107	80
Repairs to the police magistrate's bungalow, Mátalé	181	30
Immediate and urgent repairs to the public buildings in the Kégalla district	198	44
Repairs to the district court, Chilaw	274	25
Do. court-house at Negombo	243	57
Whitewashing the walls of the registrar's office, Supreme Court, Colombo	48	0
Repairs to the Royal College, Colombo	1,928	60
Do. Public Works Department storeyard and clerks' quarters, Mátalé	242	1
Do. road leading to the Government civil hospital, Kandy ...	47	10
Thatching the roof of the model salt store, Puttalam	334	2
Improvements to the surface drainage, civil hospital, Kandy ...	120	0
Repairs to the post office building, Gampola	80	0
Do. Mullaittivu kachchéri	198	84
Do. old Oriental Bank Corporation at Haldummulla ...	1,999	0
Do. road &c., to the hospital at Galle	194	93
Do. roof of the new lunatic asylum	249	5
Do. Galle kachchéri	889	69
Do. stables, Colonial Secretary's office	118	84
Do. district judge's house, Kalutara	780	0
Certain works to the district judge's quarters, Jaffna	512	16
Repairs to the court-house at Galle	45	35
Do. Gampola toll station	53	48
Do. civil hospital, Kandy	998	62
Do. do. Nuwara Eliya	1,537	81

	Rs.	c.
Repairs to the smallpox hospital, Mátalé	77	28
Repairs, &c., to the Gampola hospital	577	75
Repairs to the dispenser's quarters, Uḍa Pussęlláwa	48	54
Repairs to the medical officer's quarters, Kęlébokka	277	99
Repairs to the district medical officer's quarters, Uḍa Pussęlláwa ...	671	25
Do. district dispensary, Deltoṭa	217	12
Repair of the deputy jailor's quarters, Węlikada	119	6
Repairs to the Octagon, Kandy	181	74
Alterations to the buffets in the dining room of Queen's House, Colombo	146	16
Repairs to the post office building, Colombo	207	94
Do. court-house, Negombo	54	92
Do. boundary wall, Węlikaḍa jail	135	0
Rethatching the work-shed, Węlikaḍa jail	132	0
Certain works to the court of requests, Colombo	133	0
Repairs to the district court, Colombo	398	0
Certain works to the Public Works office, Colombo	790	50
Repairs to the Anglo-vernacular boys' school, Galagedara ...	47	84
Do. police court, Kalutara	70	70
Do. district engineer's quarters, Hambantoṭa ...	471	9
Whitewashing the hospital in the North-Western Province ...	293	89
Repairs to the residence of the Government Agent, North-Central Province	89	55
Fitting up audience hall, Kandy	119	86
Repairs to outhouses, &c., of the kachchéri residence, Jaffna ...	1,339	99
Repairs to Negombo hospital	323	16
Repair of boundary fence and walls in front of the Assistant Government Agent's house, Mátara	115	85
Recadjaning the witness-shed, &c., of the Pánduré police court ...	41	81
Repair of the European ward, Węlikaḍa jail	616	31
Rebuilding portion of the boundary wall, Boręlla cemetery ...	105	50
Upkeep of the flagstaff, Colombo	83	6
Clearing the cesspit in the Colonial Store yard	30	0
Repair of the guttering, Kandy kachchéri	249	81
Erection of scaffolding and ladders for repair of the Wolfendahl church	120	0
Repairs to the powder magazine, Kalutara	125	66
Repair of the roof of the police magistrate's bungalow, Pasyála ...	68	0
Repairs to the marshal's office, Pánaduré	43	0
Do. wards at the Mullaittívu hospital	98	25
Repair of the custom-house and sub-collector's house, Doḍandúwa ...	115	15
Repairs to the Kurunęgala kachchéri	429	44
Extending the lightning conductor of the powder magazine, Kandy ...	82	36
Improvements to the drainage, Government land adjoining Ward street, Kandy	125	16
Building an open store in the Colonial Store yard	758	0
Locks to the gate of the law courts, Colombo	61	2
Repair of thatched buildings, convict hospital, Boręlla ...	156	86
Repairs, &c., to the jailor's quarters, Hulftsdorp	77	73
Repairs to the salt-shed, Béruwala	54	51
Do. jetty opposite the Factory	978	56
Do. custom-house, Kalpiṭiya	125	85
Do. civil hospital, Nuwara Eliya	103	25
Do. post and telegraph office, Batticaloa	147	85
Do. quarters of the clerk, police court, Nuwara Eliya ...	874	79
Cleaning the Council Chamber	89	70
Repair of the medical officer's quarters, Kęgalla	448	0
Repairs to the Government civil hospital Kęgalla	488	0
Repairs, &c., to the custom-house, Silávatturai	991	75
Repairs to the registrar of lands' office, Kandy	383	68
Do. Government buildings at Kaṭukęlé	128	2
Making rollers and pins for Foul Point lighthouse	149	45
Repair of the cupola at the Factory	293	50
Repairs to Pálugama cooly-shed	166	50
Repairs to the sheds, drains, &c., Negombo prison	164	30
Do. outdoor dispensary at Matugama	170	0
Whitewashing the general hospital, Kandy	308	86
Do. medical officer's quarters, Kandy	33	25
Do. smallpox hospital, Kandy	24	15
Certain works to the Public Instruction office, Colombo ...	389	86
Repairs to the post office at Anurádhapura	209	0
Do. stables, old palace, Kandy	54	49
Completing the jetty at Trincomalee	447	58
Repairs to the jetty, inner harbour, Trincomalee	156	59
Do. police magistrate's buildings at Gampola ...	148	5
Do. civil and lock hospital, Galle	99	11
Do. jail at Balapiṭiya	65	79
Limewashing walls of the police court, Colombo	58	0
Repairs to the roofs of the Public Works office and store, Galle ...	198	0
Rebuilding back verandah at the Residency, Batticaloa ...	199	30
Rethatching roofs, infectious hospital, Kanatta	495	50
Repairs to Volunteer head quarters	490	0
Do. latrine, Ratnapura boys' school	22	50
Do. Surveyor-General's office	40	0
Whitewashing, &c., the Government Factory bungalow ...	50	0
Total ...	65,483	13

Statement of Improvements and Additions to Buildings.

	Rs.	c.
Building the gable wall, lying in hospital, Colombo	24	96
Converting old schoolroom at Nuwara Eliya into residence for clerks	1,083	33
Building outhouses for smallpox hospital, Batticaloa ...	69	33
Constructing a cross drain on the Valluveḍḍitturai road ...	49	68
Building temporary wall at Colonial Store premises	310	0
Certain works at the general hospital, Colombo	132	0
Certain works to the Assistant Government Agent's residence, Ratnapura	89	19
Boarded screen in the port surgeon's office, and a railing ...	241	0
Masonry drain at back of Colombo road, Kandy	185	45
Putting up a live fence round a portion of the Mátara hospital premises	23	30
Improvements to Ratnapura kachchéri	1,327	73
Construction of a thatched verandah at the police court, Pasyála ...	110	0
Providing a guttering to the grain shed, Point Pedro ...	114	58
Improvements to the Puliyantívu salt stores	106	84
Do. verandah, Batticaloa kachchéri ...	65	99
Do. Ratnapura water supply	106	72
Enlarging the kitchen, leper asylum, Hendala	192	0
Erection of a boiler room, do	103	0
Fixing two iron gratings, treasury room, Negombo kachchéri ...	59	72
Providing and fixing screens to the hospital, Galle	45	0
Improvements to Ratnapura kachchéri	230	32
Improvements to the Government civil hospital, Mátalé ..	700	0
Additions to medical officer's quarters at Haputalé	1,240	42
Divisional wall to the dining room of the patients, general hospital ...	90	0
Providing four skylights to the post and telegraph office, Nuwara Eliya	64	26
Additions and improvements to the district judge's house, Kalutara ...	300	0
Deepening the well behind the shroff's and interpreter's house, Vavuniya Vilánkulam	196	68
Building a kitchen and caretaker's room for the smallpox hospital, Badulla	80	0
Certain works and repairs to the immigrant hospital, Dambulla ...	678	55
Certain alterations to the European overseer's quarters, Welikada jail	75	27
Certain additions to the Pavilion, Kandy	538	37
Erection of a privy at the Maturata post office	147	50
Sinking a well at the Badulla hospital	114	42
Improvements for the Galle jail	69	34
Do. Mátara jail	193	23
Sinking a well for the hospital, Batticaloa	57	84
Temporary shed for cart and bier at Badulla hospital ..	20	12
Building a cadjan shed at Kayts	214	19
Raising the floor of the clerks' office and chambers of the district court, Jaffna	172	73
Improvement to the clerks' office, Ratnapura kachchéri ...	477	80
Improvement of the shelves in the record room of the Mátalé police court	47	0
Laying surface drain at the civil hospital, Colombo	994	0
Strong room in connection with the proposed new kachchéri, Chilaw	34	81
Making a dry-earth closet for the police magistrate, Colombo ...	49	98
Approach roads, &c., Karawanella hospital	488	0
MacFarlane's castings for Badulla kachchéri	222	95
Dry-earth closet for the registrar-general's office	74	87
Total ...	12,012	47

ROAD MAINTENANCE.

I have every reason to be satisfied with the condition of the roads generally. In a large Department there must naturally be found some of its members who want their own way, and my road system has during last year, though in a lesser degree than 1886, laboured under this disadvantage. The funds provided have in most instances proved ample, and there are a few cases in which the votes were not spent because the roads did not need the extensive repair contemplated when the estimates were framed. Rs. 788,933·58 were voted; Rs. 771,615·26 were expended.

Maintenance of Roads.

The following tabular statement shows the length of the roads and the expenditure or proposed expenditure on maintenance for 1886, 1887, and 1888:—

	1886. Miles.	1887. Miles.
Metalled roads	1,403·96 ...	1,416·36
Gravelled roads	858·71 ...	1,003·47
Natural roads	630·25 ...	472·25
Total ...	2,892·92	2,892·08

	Rs.	c.		Rs.	c.
Expenditure on principal roads ...	789,823	52	...	773,205	26
Do. minor roads ...	30,937	65	...	31,722	16
Total ...	820,761	17		804,927	42
Average cost per mile on principal roads ...	273	35	...	267	35
Average estimated cost per mile for 1888 ...	276	73	...	—	

The following table of the cost of road maintenance during the last ten years indicates the yearly reduction :—

Western Province.

Year.	Miles.	Amount. Rs.	c.
1879	449·34	394,521	42
1880	459·59	400,173	81
1881	493·29	342,619	74
1882	499·30	348,145	38
1883	497·40	315,823	12
1884	497·23	284,667	1
1885	498·22	239,988	97
1886	511·22	209,377	75
1887	515·03	216,234	21
1888*	526·53	258,141	0

North-Western Province.

Year.	Miles.	Amount. Rs.	c.
1879	312·75	107,699	98
1880	311 75	105,660	63
1881	311·75	97,570	64
1882	311·75	94,939	8
1883	311·75	92,387	88
1884	311·75	66,080	7
1885	311·75	50,968	71
1886	311·75	56,761	56
1887	312·75	60,206	27
1888*	313 25	60,568	0

Southern Province.

Year.	Miles.	Amount. Rs.	c.
1879	253·25	161,047	25
1880	227·25	161,652	59
1881	227·25	136,713	1
1882	226·00	141,965	49
1883	226·00	117,233	98
1884	226·00	74,350	96
1885	226·00	66,368	20
1886	226·00	75,277	33
1887	239 00	75,399	6
1888*	239·00	77,526	50

Eastern Province.

Year.	Miles.	Amount. Rs.	c.
1879	364·00	77,089	81
1880	364·00	77,773	29
1881	374·50	79,797	32
1882	374·50	68,532	75
1883	362·25	82,546	59
1884	360·25	71,105	8
1885	360·25	54,015	68

Eastern Province—contd.

Year.	Miles	Amount. Rs.	c.
1886	360·25	45,444	44
1887	344 00	43,768	3
1888*	345·12	49,911	0

Northern Province.

Year.	Miles.	Amount. Rs.	c.
1879	514 25	113,624	95
1880	484·75	110,088	52
1881	484·75	107,590	27
1882	484·75	99,685	38
1883	484·75	100,850	30
1884	484·75	92,048	29
1885	484·75	56,822	25
1886	484·75	58,847	2
1887	474·25	61,014	73
1888*	474·25	67,376	0

Central Province.

Year.	Miles.	Amount. Rs.	c.
1879	653·75	753,830	2
1880	684·51	753,916	75
1881	700·67	652,066	84
1882	728·33	599,478	32
1883	726·73	488,482	4
1884	760·52	456,490	59
1885	760·52	293,065	10
1886	538 27	173,640	76
1887	537·75	164,334	76
1888*	541·23	170,594	39

North-Central Province.

Year.	Miles.	Amount. Rs.	c.
1879	228·18	46,448	49
1880	228·18	45,639	61
1881	228·18	42,770	81
1882	228·18	42,303	17
1883	228·18	41,121	24
1884	228·18	37,051	37
1885	228 18	36,030	6
1886	235·18	40,558	36
1887	235·18	35,027	96
1888*	237·47	38,459	0

Province of Uva.†

Year.	Miles.	Amount. Rs.	c.
1886	232·50	105,958	16
1887	234·12	95,120	47
1888*	273·62	89,184	50

COST OF MAINTENANCE OF IRRIGATION WORKS.

Province.	1887. Rs.	c.	1888. Rs.	c.	Increase Rs.	c.	Decrease. Rs.	c.
Western	675	17	717	36	—		42	19
North-Western	5,887	36	5,830	64	56	72	—	
Southern	12,661	20	11,611	46	1,049	74	—	
Eastern	12,707	7	9,412	52	3,294	55	—	
Northern	595	50	242	59	352	91	—	
Central	—		—		—		—	
North-Central	9,876	34	14,145	25	—		4,268	91
Uva	1,222	87	1,078	44	144	43	—	
Total	43,625	51	43,038	26	4,898	35	4,311	10

MAINTENANCE SUMMARY.

	1887. Rs.	c.	1886. Rs.	c.
Roads	804,927	42	820,761	17
Bridges	56,619	71	53,690	94
Canals	28,088	17	28,296	83
Irrigation works	43,625	51	43,038	26
Public buildings	114,814	31	117,151	89
Total	1,048,075	12	1,062,939	9

IRRIGATION WORKS (CONSTRUCTION).

The total expenditure (1887) has been Rs. 522,399·37; during 1886 the expenditure was Rs. 525,725·07. The principal works in progress have been the restoration of Kalawęwa and Nuwarawęwa in the North-Central Province, Baṭugedara channel and Panamure scheme in the Western Province, Maha Uswęwa in the North-Western Province, Labugala in the Eastern Province, Belihul-oya scheme in the Central Province, Mamadu and Mandukotai tanks in the Northern Province, the Walawé-gaṇga scheme in the Southern Province, and the Kanda-ṣla in the Province of Uva.

* Estimated.

† The expenditure in the Province of Uva to 1886 is included in the Western and Central Provinces.

The following is a statement of the several works and the expenditure during the year, with the condition of progress of each work at the close of the year :—

Irrigation Works.

Southern Province.	Rs.	c.		
Constructing an anicut across the Walawé gaṇga at Liyangahatoṭa	44,956	7	...	In progress.
Constructing a channel from Liyangaha-ela anicut to Mamadola, Tawaluwila, and Ełbaṭuwa	20,728	81	...	do.
Deduwe reclamation scheme ...	4,976	81	...	do.
Nitulpiṭiya channel	5,000	0	...	do.
Improvements to Ellagala anicut ...	420	65	...	Completed.
Tracing a channel from Liyangahatoṭa anicut to Hambantoṭa	782	5	...	do.
For small irrigation works	998	85		do.
Construction of sluices to village tanks ...	4,136	98	...	do.
Surveys	4,142	77	...	do.
North-Central Province.				
Distributing sluice to the experimental garden, Anurádhapura	26	51	...	Completed.
Bungalow for district engineer, Maḍawachchiya	800	0	...	do.
Extension of the Unnánsewęṭichcha Pokuna channel	901	54	...	do
Building side walls to channel leading from the second sluice to the Alahaperuma fields	172	56	...	do.
Building side walls on the Yóda-ela to the Mahawila fields	94	16	...	do.
Raising the breast wall of the sluice of Pálugaswęwa	165	94	...	do.
Extending outlet channel of Pandiankaḍawala tank sluice	123	57	...	do.
Repairs of spill of Tambalagollawęwa tank...	279	97	...	do.
Trenching and forming a puddle wall in repairing bund of Habasama tank ...	311	81	...	do.
Bungalow for superintendents of tanks, north and south divisions	700	0	...	do.
Tissawęwa high level channel extension ...	1,159	96	...	do.
Extension of Tissawęwa low-level channel ...	993	9	...	do.
Culvert across the Puttalam-Trincomalee road	125	0	...	do.
Culvert across the Trincomalee Anurádhapura road	78	45	...	do.
Extension of Bassawakulam channel ...	820	84	...	do.
Restoration of Nuwarawęwa ...	30,178	2	...	In progress.
Restoration of village tank, Pahala Diulwęwa	224	73	...	Completed
Repair of village tanks in Kęndé kóralé ...	571	9	...	do.
Do. Kadawat kóralé ...	668	4	...	do.
Repairs to Tissawęwa tank ...	3,968	69	...	do
Construction of sluices to tanks ...	23,513	33	...	do.
Construction of the Kalawęwa sluices ...	8,663	66		Approaching completion.
Re building sluice at Balaluwęwa ...	13,366	98		
Spill wall across the Kala-oya ...	124,973	95		
Western Province.				
Improvements to the Malwatta-ela ...	3,965	0	...	Completed.
Brick lining wells at Tunkęma, Ęmbilipiṭiya, and Kirigalkatawa	445	0	...	In progress.
Sinking wells in Kolonná kóralé ...	888	86	...	Completed.
Three wells in the village Angulána ...	864	25	...	do.
Rebuilding sluice at Wéwęlduwa ...	1,181	33	...	do.
Fixing pipe sluice to the embankment of the Baṭugedara channel	425	34	...	do.
Restoration of Baṭugedara-ela ...	6,335	40	...	do
Repair of sluice gate at Baḍahęlawatta ...	257	3	...	do.
Repairs to Toragala flood gates ...	32	0	...	do.
Minor repairs to three elas in the Kuruwiṭi kóralé	159	47	...	do.
Repairs of three elas and an amuna in Nawadun kóralé	131	8	...	do.
Anicut at Kampi-ela	3,303	66	...	do.
Surveys	1,379	62	...	do.
North-Western Province.				
Construction of a spill in the bund of Pikulam tank	3,708	27	...	Completed.
Taking down the damaged masonry in sluice of Mahakirinda tank and re-building the face wall and wing	355	47	...	do.
Taking down the damaged masonry in sluice of Malparuwa tank	354	69	...	do.
Blasting out the rocks in the spill-water of Magalawęwa	89	13	...	do.
Lengthening the culvert in the sluice of Mahananeriya tank	203	9	...	do

	Rs.	c.		
Permanent spill wall in the Mottapettawa tank	318	0	...	Completed.
Do. and improving the sluice of Mahagalkaḍawala tank ...	843	80	...	do.
Restoration of Mahá Uswęwa tank ...	3,987	83	...	do.
Construction of sluices to tanks ...	26,639	52	...	do.
Surveys	2,305	73	...	do.
Eastern Province.				
Constructing a head sluice on the right bank of the Koṭṭiyanmadu	1,503	91	...	Completed.
Repairs to Divilané bund	699	44	...	do.
Raising spill level of Maha-oya tank ...	167	22	...	do.
Restoration of Lahugala tank ...	7,076	96	...	do.
Completing works at Panawa tank ...	722	23	...	do.
Completion of Naula tank	722	39	...	do.
Completing Panichchaḍiodai wall near Saggamam	1,189	24	...	do.
Completion of Roṭawęwa tank ...	1,020	93	...	do.
Distributing sluice of Samanturaivelli ...	133	2	...	do.
Sluice in the salt water bund near Kiḍḍanke	1,783	92	...	Nearly completed.
Stream crossing, distributing sluice, and bridges at Kaḍukkamunai channel ...	4,436	61	...	do.
Completing spill at Kantalai tank ...	2,470	1	...	Completed.
Stopping leaks in the Keḍamaḍu sluice ...	584	14	...	do.
Anicut on the Allai channel ...	3,694	10	...	do.
Surveys	742	1	...	do.
Central Province.				
Constructing sluice, &c., Elahára channel ...	14,741	7	...	Completed.
Blasting rocks along Attirapiṭiya-ęla ...	159	43	...	do.
Small irrigation works	1,000	0	...	do.
Improvement to Boraluwa-ęla ...	1,332	91	...	do.
Clearing and packing rocks, Węlikukulgoḍa amuna	0	48	...	do.
Improvements to Wirapiṭiya Má-ęla ...	2,484	41	...	do.
Do to Uḍa-ęla, Unatęnna, Nuwara Eliya	2,272	96	...	do.
Improvements to Uḍamá-ęla, Kotmalé ...	449	33	...	do.
Repairs to Kurunduoya-ęla ...	513	6	...	do.
Culvert on the 8th mile, Galagedara road ...	279	30	...	do.
Diverting the Alutwelawalala-ęla ...	40	0	...	do.
Repairs to Mapanawattęnne-ęla ..	1,999	79	...	do.
Improvements to Elpiṭiya Rája-ęla .	118	14	...	do.
Headworks over the Bilihul-oya ...	6,398	16	...	Approaching completion
Improvements to the Galahawa amuna ...	107	96	..	In progress.
Protecting wall, Uḍa-ęla ...	56	99	...	Work stopped.
Repairs to Maha amuna of Uḍagoḍa Bandára-ęla	175	37	...	Completed.
Blasting rocks in the ęlas in Kotmalé district	52	0	In charge of the Assistant Government Agent, Nuwara Eliya.	
Blasting rocks in the district of Uḍa Hewáhęta	96	0		
Blasting rocks in the district of Walapané...	35	0		
Payment of village tank labour, Mátalé district	496	0	...	—
Certain works on the Kurundu estate ęla ...	509	88	...	Completed.
Construction of sluices to tanks ...	1,972	34	...	do.
Surveys	2,119	95	...	do.
Northern Province.				
Additional works at Vavuṇiya-Vilápkulam tank	1,350	17	...	Completed.
Restoration of Mandukotai tank ...	14,859	93	...	In progress.
Restoration of Iratperiyákulam ...	3,077	97	...	Completed.
Small irrigation works	1,000	0	...	do.
Additional spill wall and strengthening the bund of Mamaḍḍu tank	4,027	41	...	do.
Iratperiyákulam spill channel ...	2,591	42	...	In progress.
Clearing jungle to Nattali-áru ...	500	0	...	Completed.
Restoration of Mamaḍḍu tank ...	14,045	5	...	do.
Construction of sluices, village tanks ...	6,465	16	...	do.
Surveys	144	77	...	do.
Province of Uva.				
Anicut across the Katiyan-áru ...	3,490	63	...	In progress.
Completing the west Galoya-ęla ...	3,946	63	.	do.
Building walls along the Kanda-ęla ...	4,691	85	...	do.
Do. along the Diyakola-ęla ...	489	69	...	do.
Sluice and spill for Ellamalanda tank ...	968	93	...	do.
Earthwork at the Kanda-ęla ...	958	99	...	do.
Do. west Galoya-ęla ...	1,100	49	...	do.
Compensation for opening the Rambukwęlla-ęla	60	0	...	—
Sluice to Kendela-ęla	130	0	...	Completed.
Repairing the Dumumadalawęwa ...	16	18	...	do.
Widening the channel of the Dambawinné-ęla	65	0	...	do.
Do. do. Kęṭakęla-ęla ...	75	0	...	do.
Iron pipe sluice for the Alutkendela and Uma ęlas	400	0	...	do.
Widening and repairing the Dangamuwe-ęla	225	0	...	do.
Building a pile dam at Kumbalwęlla ...	612	37	...	do.

	Rs.	c.		
Building walling, &c., along the bank of the Hangali-ela	1,325	61	...	Completed.
Completing bund and sluice to Diyabuntaláwa tank	393	33	...	do.
Surveys	2,021	36	...	do.

PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF IRRIGATION OFFICERS.

		Rs.	c.		
Southern Province	...	4,699	92		
North-Central Province	...	12,630	56		
Western Province	...	2,149	99		
North-Western Province	...	11,157	4		
Northern Province	...	583	33		
Central Province	...	520	75	31,741	59
	Total	...		522,399	37

IRRIGATION WORKS (SURVEYS).

Many surveys have been completed and are in progress. I am of opinion that one officer for irrigation surveys should be permanently established in each Province. The arrangement would be advantageous in the following way. The officer would soon possess such a topographical knowledge of his Province as would facilitate the requisite examination of proposed schemes, and render possible absolute accuracy in projecting them. I strongly recommend the additional departmental strength required to provide these provincial irrigation surveyors.

Irrigation Surveys undertaken during 1887.	Amount Expended. Rs.	c.
Western Province.		
Survey of the Kolonná kóralé irrigation scheme	1,071	50
Do. extension of the Baṭugedara channel	142	50
Do. Nikaṭu-ela and lands adjoining in the Kalutara district	131	27
Do. irrigation works in the Sabaragamuwa district ...	635	78
Do. Ugalkaltoṭa irrigation scheme	302	67
Do. Wak-oya scheme	122	10
Survey of certain lands in the village Bekkegama	45	30
North-Western Province.		
Survey of proposed channel from Deduru-oya into the Demala pattu...	2,007	31
Survey of village tanks and irrigation works in the North Western Province	298	42
Southern Province.		
Pay of chainmen, coolies, &c., in completing the survey of the Kachchigal-áru valley	499	87
Survey of the Urubokka valley and village tanks in the Taṇgalla district	1,900	0
Survey of the Namyálawila tank	252	24
Surveys in Mágam pattu from Walawé anicut	901	15
Surveys in Mátara district	339	51
Eastern Province.		
Tracing an outlet channel from the Andaikulam tank to the Chempian fields	248	56
Surveys of irrigation works in the Eastern Province ...	493	45
Northern Province.		
Survey and levels taken between Puttur well and Jaffna ...	26	20
Contour survey of Maḍḍokotai tank	106	37
Survey of the Nantikadal scheme	12	20
Central Province.		
Survey of site of the old headworks and of a part of Elahera canal ...	114	44
Payment of labour employed for irrigation and other surveys in the Central Province	505	38
Surveys in the Mátalé district	1,229	86
Province of Uva.		
Survey of the Hambagamuwa tank and its outlet channels ...	450	0
Survey of proposed channel from Nuwara Eliya lake to Mipilimana tank	499	86
Total ...	12,335	94

ROAD AND OTHER SURVEYS.

Western Province.		
Survey in the Kukúlu kóralé for road extension	1,150	0
Northern Province.		
Well borings at Mannár	353	36
Central Province.		
Survey of 2½ miles of the road from Kottiagalla and upwards in extending the Bogawantaláwa cart road	625	0
Total ...	2,128	36

MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES.

	Rs.	c.
Compensation for land on Newton estate	150	0
Compensation for land taken at Avisáwélla for a quarry ...	200	0
Compensation for damage done to Mrs. Rowlands' land, Nuwara Eliya	50	0
Compensation for land taken on Kandy and Mátalé road ...	50	0
Compensation for land taken for a quarry on Náwalapitiya-Dikoya road	162	0
Purchase of land for a metal quarry on the Ramboḍa road ...	300	0
In aid of minor roads...	4,178	10
Filling up the Fort canal and improvement to York street ...	18,277	65
Plunge bath for the military, Colombo	2,000	0
Water service to public buildings, Colombo	15,682	10
Cistern and filter bed in Ratnapura reservoir	994	81
Deepening the well at Iranamaḍḍu	356	61
Wells in the Northern Province	299	64
Deepening and rebuilding the well at Tunnukai	1,111	17
Double canoe ferry boats for the ferries between Koṭṭiyár and Trincomalee	1,054	31
Purchase and repair of tip-waggons	3,176	42
Water service to military buildings	3,843	7
Dredging of the Colombo harbour	4,036	67
Opening the mouth of the Kelani river	231	74
Survey in the Kukulu kóralé for road extension	1,937	87
Wages to factory workmen during the Jubilee holidays ...	649	65
Relief work in the Province of Uva	1,025	87
Repairs to the crane at the root of the Breakwater	109	97
Clearing a portion of rocks and boulders above Norwood bridge, Dikoya	468	90
Ferry boat for Wéragantota ferry	118	0
To meet claim of the contractor for the upkeep of the Maturata road	589	52
Clearing ground, &c., for new dispensary at Kalmunai ...	546	32
Plaster casts of ruins, North-Central Province	800	0
Repairs to machinery, Government Printing Office	225	41
Completion of the work of restoration at Yapahu	248	11
Water-supply to railway tank	671	60
Sinking a well at Siṅháragama	204	89
Repairing the planking of the well at Katugastota	47	64
Hanging tent in the Trincomalee kachchéri	15	20
Repairs to the well at Kuḍákekiráwa	54	55
Sinking a well in the kachchéri mudaliyár's premises, Anurádhapura ...	189	15
Sinking a well at Nochchigama	19	8
Total ...	64,076	2

DEPARTMENTAL CHARGES.

Surveying and tracing new roads	978	36
Keep of sick bullocks	99	88
Rebuilding the elephant shed at the Government Factory ...	195	0
Subsistence of sick elephants	600	0
Capture of an elephant, North-Central Province	150	0
Repair of ferry boats and pontoons	5,858	44
Working of the Government Factory	4,000	0
Purchase tools for the use of the Public Works Department ...	39,697	84
General service	4,497	24
Purchase of drawing materials	1,000	0
Purchase and repair of surveying and drawing instruments ...	793	76
Purchase of pioneer clothing	5,700	21
Rent on building occupied by Public Works Department, Kandy ...	791	4
Do. do. Gampola...	99	96
Do. do. Negombo	184	50
Rent of Public Works Office, Galle	600	0
Rent of house occupied by district engineer, Badulla ...	390	0
Payment of rent for old resthouse, Pussellâwa	127	50
Travelling expenses to the Director of Public Works and his assistants	56,286	0
Purchase of stationery	2,919	13
Total ...	124,968	86

FACTORY.

The variety and quantity of work undertaken at the Government Factory is still on the increase. Work has been executed there for every Department in Ceylon.

PIONEERS.

Return of the Pioneer Force on December 31, 1887 :—

	Number employed.	Nominal Strength of Division.	Deficiency.	Excess
Divisions ...	5	5	—	—
Sergeant-Majors	5	5	—	—
Sergeants ...	10	10	—	—
Corporals ...	5	10	5	—
First Class Artificers	32	40	8	—
Second Class Artificers	69	60	—	9
Third Class Artificers	151	150	—	1
Pioneers and Boys	151	225	74	—
Total ...	423	500	87	10

Deficiency	87
Deduct excess	10
Actual deficiency	77

	1887.	1886.	Increase.	Decrease.
Strength of force	423 ...	440 ...	— ...	17
Enlisted and joined	34 ...	63 ...	— ...	29
Discharged	12 ...	3 ...	9 ...	—
Deserted	15 ...	31 ...	— ...	16
Deaths	14 ...	18 ...	— ...	4
Pensioned	10 ...	15 ...	— ...	5

The following figures show the number of the force at the end of the last five years :—

	Nominal Strength.	Actual.	Decrease.	Decrease per Cent.	Increase.
1882 ...	500 ...	583 ...	— ...	— ...	83
1883 ...	500 ...	511 ..	— ...	— ...	11
1884 ...	500 ...	492 ...	8 ...	1·6 ...	—
1885 ...	500 ...	444 ...	56 ...	11·2 ...	—
1886 ...	500 ...	440 ...	60 ...	12·0 ...	—
1887 ...	500 ...	423 ...	77 ...	15·4 ...	—

DEPARTMENTAL.

Mr. K. H. Coxe retired on pension, and so did Head Overseer C. Marsalis. Mr. F. J. Edge was permitted to accept employment under the Colombo Municipality, and Head Overseer P. Ayathuray was permitted to resign. The Secretary of State appointed one District Engineer to the Department, namely, Mr. W. C. Price ; and His Excellency the Governor appointed two, Messrs. A. S. Burnett and F. J. Pigott, and C. F. Emerson as a Tracing Officer. Two head overseers, Messrs. S. A. M. Jeremiah and A. H. Auwardt, were also appointed by the Governor.

R. K. MACBRIDE,
Director of Public Works.

May 30, 1888.

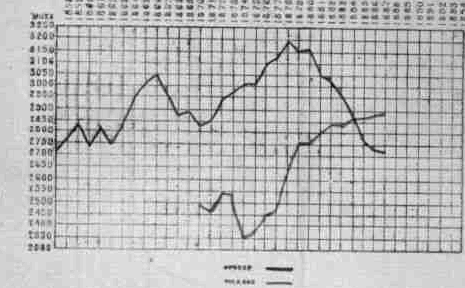
ERRATA.

Page 6 B.—*Maintenance of Roads:* Expenditure on Principal Roads in 1887, *for* "Rs. 773,206·26" *read* "Rs. 771,615·26"; and on Minor Roads, *for* "Rs. 31,722·16" *read* "Rs. 33,312·16."

Page 7 B.—In *Maintenance Summary* the figures for *Roads* include votes for Minor Roads and Ordinance labour. In last paragraph, line 4, *for* "Labugala" *read* "Lahugala."

DIAGRAM

SHOWING
ITEMS OF EXPENDITURE
REPAIRS & RELEASE OF ROADS



DIAGRAM

SHOWING
ITEMS OF EXPENDITURE
CONSTRUCTION OF ROAD

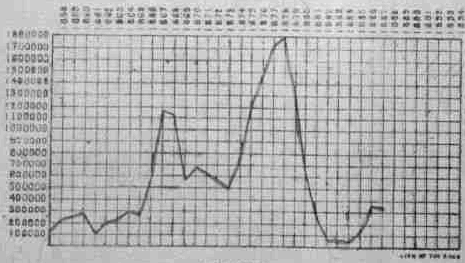
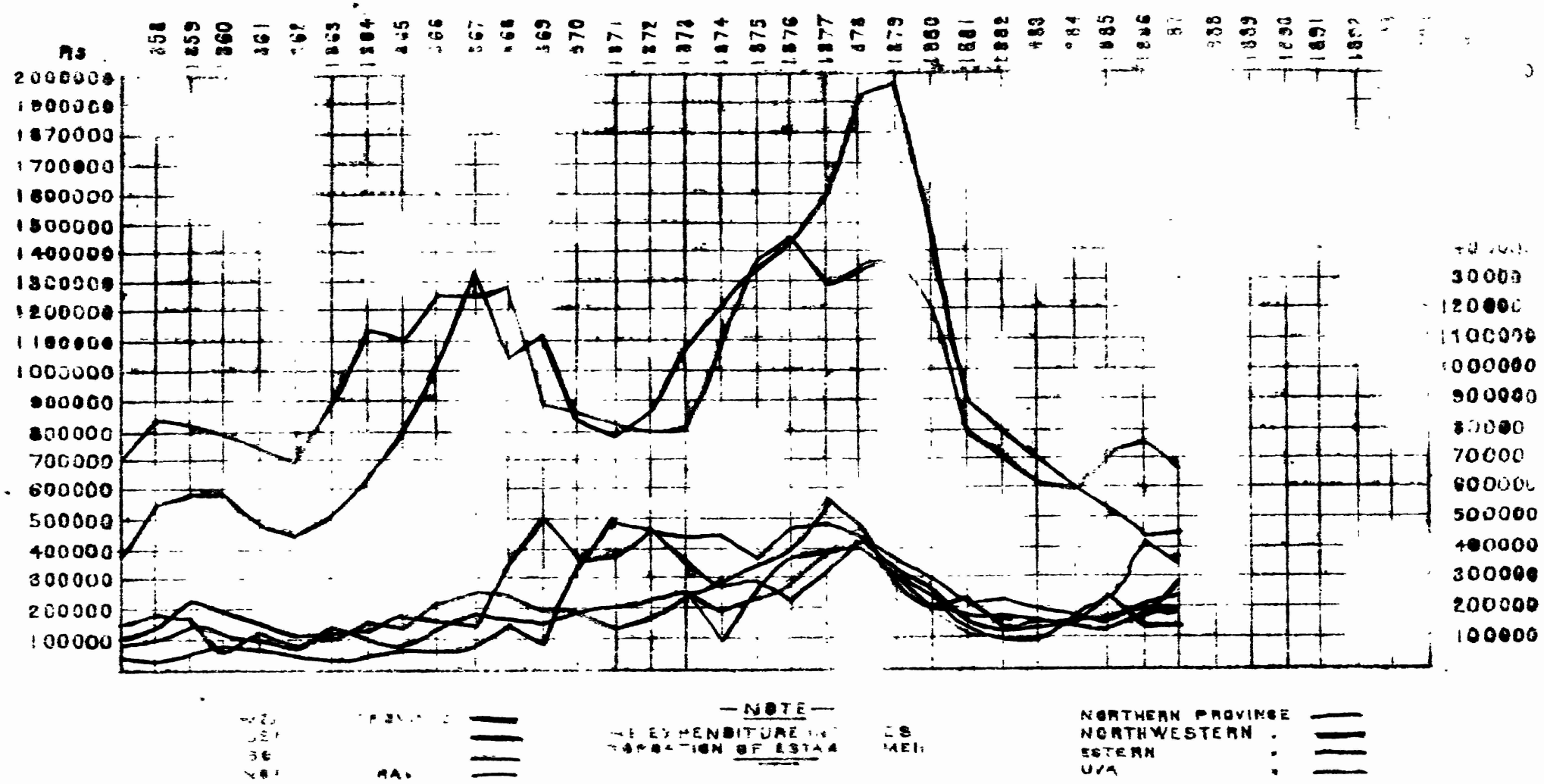


DIAGRAM
SHOWING
RAINFALL
FOR THREE DIFFERENT STATIONS
FOR THE YEAR 1924
NORTHERN PRAIRIE
NORTHWESTERN
WEST
CENTRAL
NORTHERN PRAIRIE
NORTHWESTERN
WEST
CENTRAL
PM

DIAGRAM

SHOWING
FLUCTUATION OF EXPEND
THE DIFFERENT PROVIN
THE LAST 37 YE



METEOROLOGY.

REPORT ON THE METEOROLOGY OF CEYLON FOR 1887.

GENERAL REMARKS: Table I., List of meteorological observatories——Equipment of meteorological observatories——Rain-gauge stations——Map showing observatories and rain gauge stations, and mean annual rainfall over the Island.——SOLAR RADIATION: Nature of observations——Table II., showing average excess of insolation over shade temperatures for a series of years——Table III., showing equilibrium temperatures of solar radiation for 1887 (Appendix)——Table IV., comparing 1887 with averages of previous years.——NOCTURNAL RADIATION: Nature of observations——Table V., showing average depression of terrestrial radiation thermometer below minimum shade temperature for a series of years——Table VI., giving monthly means of the nightly readings for 1887 (Appendix)——Table VII., comparing 1887 with previous years.——AIR TEMPERATURE: Table VIII., giving average monthly temperatures——Table IX., showing mean and extreme air temperature in shade for 1887 (Appendix)——Table X., comparison of monthly mean temperatures for 1887 with the averages——Table XI., giving sea-level equivalents of the mean monthly temperatures for 1887 (Appendix).——ATMOSPHERIC PRESSURE: Nature of instruments employed——Table XII., giving average monthly mean pressure——Table XIII., giving monthly means and extremes of pressure for 1887 (Appendix)——Table XIV., comparison of monthly means in 1887 with the averages——Table XV., showing monthly means in 1887 reduced to sea-level values (Appendix).——WIND: Nature of instruments employed——Table XVI., direction and mean movement of wind for 1887 (Appendix).——HYGROMETRY: Nature of observations——Table XVII, giving temperature of evaporation in 1887 (Appendix)——Table XVIII., giving tension of atmospheric vapour for 1887 (Appendix)——Table XIX., giving average monthly mean tension for a series of years——Table XX., comparing 1887 with the averages——Table XXI., showing average mean monthly humidity for a series of years——Table XXII., giving mean relative humidity in 1887 (Appendix)——Table XXIII., comparing 1887 with the averages.——CLOUD PROPORTION: Nature of observations——Table XXIV., giving average proportion of clouded sky for a series of years——Table XXV., giving mean proportion of clouded sky in 1887 (Appendix)——Table XXVI., comparison of 1887 with the averages.——RAINFALL: Table XXVII., giving average rainfall for a series of years——Table XXVIII., comparing 1887 with the averages——Table XXIX., showing inches in each month of 1887 (Appendix)——Table XXX., giving number of days on which rain fell (Appendix).——REMARKS ON THE METEOROLOGY OF THE YEAR 1887.

Diagram No. 1, Level of Colombo lake, and rainfall in 1887——Diagram No. 2, Mean monthly rainfall at principal stations in Ceylon——Table showing rainfall returns for the year.

GENERAL REMARKS.

It is a source of much gratification to me to report the cordial co-operation of Government Agents and Assistant Government Agents in endeavouring to secure the trustworthiness of the meteorological observations throughout the Colony. To these officials, and to those private gentlemen who have been courteous enough to send into this office their returns of rainfall, the grateful thanks of this Department are hereby tendered.

No official visits were made to any of the meteorological observatories during 1887. The observations sent in were, however, carefully watched, and when any unusual readings were noted, the observers were immediately communicated with, and questioned as to the condition of their instruments. It is much to be desired that the observers would themselves exercise a little more vigilance and restore broken mercury columns, and report injury to instruments, &c., without waiting to be reminded from the Head Office.

The Colombo Observatory was maintained in thorough working order by the meteorological observer at head quarters.

Meteorological Observatories.—The sixteen meteorological observatories are distinguished in Table I., on page 13 B, which also shows the latitude, longitude, and elevation of the different barometer cisterns above mean sea-level.

TABLE I.—Latitudes, Longitudes, and Elevations of the Meteorological Observatories.

Provinces.	Stations.	Lat. N.	Long. E.	Elevation.	Level determined.	How determined.	Names of Observers.
		° ′	° ′	Feet.			
Western ...	Colombo .	6 56	79 59	40	Bar. cistern	Levelled	W. M. De Silva
Do. ...	Ratnapura ...	6 42	80 24	109	do.	do.	F. G. Hepponstall
North-Western ...	Puttalam ..	8 20	79 50	11	do.	Bar readings	R. H. Matthiesz
North-Central ...	Anurádhapura ..	8 22	80 23	302	do.	Levelled	G. Muttukistna
Northern ...	Mannár ...	8 59	79 55	12	do.	Bar. readings	J. A. Figuerado
Do. ...	Jaffna ..	9 40	79 56	9	do.	Levelled	C. Arunacalam
Eastern ...	Trincomalee ...	8 33	81 15	75	do.	do.	T. Nallatamby
Do. ...	Batticaloa .	7 43	81 44	26	do.	Bar. readings	P. S. Govindesamy
Southern ..	Hambantoṭa ...	6 7	81 7	50	do.	Approximate	H. W. Allahakon
Do. ...	Galle ...	6 1	80 14	48	do.	Levelled	E. W. Jansz
Central ...	Kandy ...	7 18	80 40	1,696	do.	do.	M. F. Pieris
Do. ...	Nuwara Eliya ..	6 59	80 47	6,240	do.	do.	M. Perera
Do. ...	Badulla ...	6 59	81 5	2,225	do.	do.	C. Ratnayeke
Do. ..	Hakgala (approximately)...	6 55	80 48	5,581	do.	Bar. readings	W. Nock
Northern ..	V.-Viláṇkulam ..	8 40	79 55	312	do.	Levelled	P. Sittamparapillai
North-Western ...	Kurunégala ...	7 00	80 00	—	do.	do.	R. H. Pollocks (January to March) and C. Woutersz (April to December)

All stations are supplied with the following instruments:—Standard barometer, maximum air thermometer, minimum air thermometer, maximum wet-bulb thermometer, minimum wet-bulb thermometer, solar radiation thermometer *in vacuo*, terrestrial radiation thermometer, anemometer, and rain-gauge.

Besides the above-mentioned stations there are 61 rain-gauge stations reporting their observations monthly to this office; of these 60 are in the wet and 1 in the dry zone.*

The map facing this page shows the distribution of the observatories and rain-gauge stations, and by varying depths of colour the mean annual rainfall over different parts of the Island.

SOLAR RADIATION.

The instrument employed at the observatories for determining the equilibrium temperature of solar radiation consists of a sensitive mercurial maximum thermometer, having the bulb and part of the stem covered with dull lamp-black. It is enclosed in a larger glass jacket from which the greater part of the air has been exhausted. These instruments, which were previously placed on stands about one foot above ground, were in 1885 mounted on stands four feet from the ground, the height now generally employed in meteorological observatories. The effect of this change is that the difference between the solar radiation readings and the maximum in shade has been below the average obtained in previous years at almost all the stations. This is due to the fact that the radiation from the ground and surrounding objects has been diminished by the increased height of the instrument. At the same time the readings are probably much nearer their true values.

The relative amount of solar radiation, or intensity of the sun's rays, is indicated by the difference between the temperature registered by this instrument and that registered by the maximum air thermometer in the shade. For various reasons, however, the temperature indicated by this instrument affords only an approximate measure of the amount of solar radiation that penetrates the atmosphere.

Table II., below, shows the mean monthly excess of the maximum temperature in the sun over the maximum temperature in the shade, deduced from the observations extending over a long series of years in Ceylon.

TABLE II.—Average excess of Insolation over the corresponding Maximum Shade Temperature.

Stations.	Years.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year.
Colombo ...	16—18	60·1	59·1	58·3	57·9	56·6	57·4	58·9	60·1	60·9	60·3	59·4	59·4	59·0
Ratnapura ...	6—11	63·4	65·0	64·5	61·7	57·1	52·2	55·3	55·1	58·3	58·0	63·3	64·4	59·9
Puttalam ...	13—18	59·2	58·9	58·4	58·0	56·6	55·4	55·8	57·7	58·1	57·1	57·0	57·5	57·5
Anurádhapura	14—18	60·0	62·3	62·3	61·2	58·6	56·7	60·8	60·7	59·9	59·6	59·0	57·4	59·9
Mannár ...	6—11	55·2	60·7	63·7	61·4	57·5	56·9	58·4	58·5	58·3	56·5	52·3	51·1	57·5
Jaffna ...	16—17	55·9	61·0	61·0	59·3	52·8	51·8	53·3	54·8	56·1	54·5	52·2	50·6	55·3
Trincomalee...	9—12	64·7	68·2	68·3	62·3	54·2	50·3	51·3	52·4	54·8	58·1	59·4	62·4	58·9
Batticaloa ...	17—20	55·1	61·9	61·9	60·4	58·2	56·0	57·1	57·2	57·7	58·6	56·4	52·1	57·7
Hambantoṭa...	15—17	51·5	55·8	58·7	56·6	52·2	49·5	50·4	51·6	52·8	53·1	51·3	51·6	52·9
Galle ...	16—18	57·1	59·8	60·0	58·1	54·0	52·1	54·2	55·7	53·1	54·3	55·1	55·4	55·7
Kandy ...	17—19	57·6	60·6	62·4	63·2	58·8	54·0	52·8	54·4	56·3	59·0	59·3	55·9	57·9
Nuwara Eliya	13—16	63·1	68·8	71·5	69·9	63·1	50·4	51·7	57·1	58·7	62·8	66·0	64·2	62·3
Hakgala ...	3—4	56·6	63·2	62·0	64·3	61·7	58·0	58·0	59·4	59·0	60·7	60·6	51·0	59·5
Badulla ...	4—5	57·1	65·5	69·2	68·1	66·2	65·5	67·5	64·9	66·9	73·9	70·7	69·9	67·1
V.-Viláṇkulam	1—2	66·2	60·3	58·0	59·5	54·9	56·0	53·9	57·2	59·6	59·9	62·2	54·2	58·6
Kurunégala ...	0—1	?	?	?	?	57·5	58·1	57·9	60·1	60·6	60·9	59·9	52·5	?

* The "wet zone" is where the rainfall is over 60 inches in the year; the "dry zone" where the rainfall is less than 60 inches.

Table III. (in appendix) shows the equilibrium temperatures of solar radiation for each month of the year 1887 for all stations, giving the monthly mean of the daily readings, the highest and lowest reading for the month, with the dates on which they occurred, and also the excess of the sun over the shade temperatures.

Table IV., below, shows the variations from the averages of Table II. of the mean monthly excess temperatures of sun over shade in 1887, deduced from Table III.

TABLE IV.—Comparison of Excess Sun (over Shade) Temperature in 1887, with the Averages of Table II.

Stations.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year.
Colombo ...	— 6·9	— 5·0	— 5·9	— 6·5	— 5·5	— 6·0	— 2·6	— 4·9	— 5·1	— 5·2	— 5·2	— 8·3	— 5·6
Ratnapura ...	?	?	?	— 4·9	— 1·3	+ 4·4	+ 0·5	+ 1·2	+ 0·6	— 0·3	— 1·2	— 2·9	?
Puttalam ...	— 0·1	— 4·6	— 6·7	— 4·6	— 2·7	— 3·0	?	— 0·1	+ 1·6	— 0·4	+ 0·5	— 7·3	?
Anurádhapura ...	+ 6·1	— 2·9	— 4·6	— 3·7	— 0·7	?	?	+ 1·5	— 3·2	+ 3·1	+ 3·3	+ 4·0	?
Mannár ...	— 1·0	— 6·0	— 11·4	— 8·9	— 5·3	— 2·6	— 1·8	— 3·0	— 1·0	— 0·8	+ 3·2	— 7·7	— 3·8
Jaffna ...	+ 6·3	— 1·3	— 4·2	+ 0·7	— 14·2	— 11·6	— 13·2	— 12·2	— 8·2	?	— 4·9	— 7·9	?
Trincomalee ...	?	?	?	— 12·1	— 4·0	— 10·2	— 13·2	— 12·7	— 6·6	— 1·0	— 2·4	— 9·1	?
Batticaloa ...	+ 2·9	— 1·4	— 6·2	— 5·9	— 4·4	— 1·0	— 2·4	— 3·7	— 4·0	— 2·4	+ 0·4	— 1·1	— 2·4
Hambantoṭa ...	?	?	?	?	— 5·9	— 1·5	— 2·9	— 3·7	— 6·5	— 5·3	+ 0·9	— 1·6	?
Galle ...	— 1·0	?	?	?	— 7·1	0·0	+ 1·6	— 0·7	+ 0·8	— 9·2	— 10·4	— 5·1	?
Kandy ...	— 2·7	— 4·6	— 8·2	— 5·6	— 3·2	+ 1·3	+ 2·5	+ 4·1	— 1·1	— 6·2	+ 0·2	— 4·8	— 2·4
Nuwara Eliya ..	— 3·1	— 6·5	— 10·5	— 9·4	— 5·4	— 1·4	— 6·1	— 0·1	— 8·8	— 3·8	— 4·2	— 12·9	— 6·0
Hakgala ...	— 5·9	?	— 3·8	— 1·2	— 1·8	+ 1·6	— 1·5	0·0	— 1·5	— 2·2	+ 0·6	— 9·8	?
Badulla ...	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
Vavuṇiya-Viláṇkulam	?	+ 1·7	0·0	+ 2·8	+ 1·3	+ 1·8	+ 0·1	+ 1·8	+ 0·3	— 0·9	+ 3·6	?	?
Kurunégala ...	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?

NOCTURNAL RADIATION.

The thermometer employed for registering the cooling of the stratum of air in contact with the earth, as the result of radiation towards the sky at night, is a sensitive spirit minimum thermometer. It is placed on a pad of non-conducting material (blanket) resting on the ground.

The relative amount of radiation from the earth is indicated by the difference between the temperature registered by this thermometer and that registered by the minimum air thermometer

Table V., below, shows the mean monthly depression of the minimum thermometer on the ground level below the minimum in shade four feet above the ground, deduced from four to six years' observations in Ceylon.

TABLE V.—Average Depression of Monthly Mean Nocturnal Temperatures below Minimum Shade Temperature.

Stations.	Years.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year.
Colombo ...	4—6	6·3	7·6	8·5	8·0	7·9	6·1	7·7	7·4	5·9	5·8	5·8	6·3	6·9
Ratnapura ...	0—2	?	?	2·3	2·8	2·0	2·5	2·7	2·3	3·2	3·7	2·6	3·6	?
Puttalam ...	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
Anurádhapura	3—6	7·3	7·7	8·3	6·5	6·3	6·9	5·4	4·0	5·6	6·0	6·2	8·6	6·6
Mannár ...	4—5	12·0	13·0	14·5	14·7	14·3	10·2	9·3	9·5	9·2	10·8	11·6	13·3	11·9
Jaffna ...	5—6	5·8	6·2	4·9	3·9	2·7	2·8	3·2	3·0	3·7	3·6	3·6	3·4	3·9
Trincomalee...	2—5	4·4	5·7	4·3	4·1	4·0	4·7	5·4	4·3	5·4	5·0	4·4	4·3	4·7
Batticaloa ...	3—4	3·9	4·4	5·8	5·3	4·5	4·5	4·4	4·0	5·0	5·4	3·2	3·6	4·5
Hambantoṭa...	0—2	3·9	4·2	?	2·8	4·8	?	2·6	5·6	6·2	5·7	6·7	5·8	?
Galle ...	3—6	6·7	7·5	8·2	8·4	8·7	7·0	7·0	8·1	7·7	5·3	5·3	5·7	7·1
Kandy ...	3—5	6·0	7·2	8·4	7·8	6·2	6·8	6·0	5·7	6·9	6·8	5·4	4·9	6·5
Nuwara Eliya	3—4	3·9	6·3	7·0	5·8	5·2	3·8	2·6	4·0	3·3	3·3	4·0	4·5	4·5
Hakgala ...	3—4	3·5	5·3	5·8	4·4	3·8	1·9	2·5	3·2	3·9	2·9	2·9	2·4	3·5
Badulla ...	2—3	5·1	7·7	6·3	7·4	8·2	7·4	6·2	6·0	5·5	6·2	8·4	5·9	6·7
V.-Viláṇkulam	1—2	8·5	10·4	12·3	11·2	7·0	6·8	6·8	6·9	6·7	6·9	8·9	8·1	8·4
Kurunégala ...	1—2	8·8	9·4	9·6	6·6	6·2	4·7	5·1	5·3	5·0	5·5	4·7	5·5	6·4

Table VI. (in appendix) gives the monthly means of the nightly readings, the maximum and minimum readings with the dates on which they occurred, and also the depression below the minimum shade temperature.

Table VII., on page 16 B, shows the variations from the averages of Table V. of the mean monthly depressions of the terrestrial radiation thermometer below the minimum shade thermometer for 1887, deduced from Table VI.

TABLE VII.—Comparison of the Depression of Mean Nocturnal Temperatures below Minimum Shade Temperatures in 1887, with the Averages of Table VI.

Stations.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year.
Colombo ...	—0·9	—1·3	—2·5	—4·5	—3·4	—1·9	—3·2	—3·2	—2·2	—2·5	—2·9	—3·5	—2·6
Ratnapura ...	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	—0·3	—1·1	?	?	?
Puttalam ...	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
Anurádhapura ...	+1·9	—0·5	?	—3·4	—2·4	?	?	—0·5	—1·9	—2·1	—1·1	—1·6	?
Mannár ...	+2·2	+1·5	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
Jaffna ...	—2·6	—2·3	—1·3	—1·4	—1·3	—1·0	—1·9	—1·5	—2·1	—1·9	—1·1	—1·0	—1·6
Trincomalee ...	+1·1	+0·4	+1·8	+0·7	+0·9	—0·0	—0·2	+1·0	+0·5	+0·8	+2·0	+1·2	+0·8
Batticaloa ...	—0·1	—1·4	—1·7	—1·8	+0·9	+1·1	+0·5	+0·5	—0·7	—2·4	—0·4	—0·9	—0·5
Hambantoṭa ...	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
Galle ...	—1·6	—1·4	—3·2	—3·3	—2·4	—3·1	—2·9	—3·8	—3·3	—0·5	+0·3	—1·8	—2·2
Kandy ...	—2·0	—1·2	—3·3	—4·1	—1·8	—2·8	—1·6	—1·7	—3·1	—2·8	—2·0	—2·2	—2·4
Nuwara Eliya ...	+2·9	+1·1	+1·1	+0·4	+1·4	+0·5	—1·3	+2·2	+2·3	+2·6	+2·2	+1·0	+1·3
Hakgala ...	+2·3	+0·2	+1·2	—0·8	—1·1	—0·2	+0·4	—0·7	+1·1	—1·4	—1·5	—1·3	0·0
Badulla ...	+1·0	+0·6	+0·4	+3·2	+2·5	+0·1	?	—0·8	—0·8	—0·2	+3·5	—0·4	?
V.-Viláṇkulam ...	?	—1·4	—3·5	—3·5	—0·1	—0·1	—0·5	—0·3	—0·3	—0·6	—0·5	—0·1	?
Kuruṇégala ...	?	?	?	?	+0·7	+0·5	+0·9	+0·7	?	—1·0	?	—1·6	?

AIR TEMPERATURE.

Table VIII., below, gives the average monthly mean temperatures of stations in Ceylon. The data for the deduction of the mean temperature are obtained from the means of the air temperatures at 9*h.* 30*m.* and 15*h.* 30*m.*, and minimum thermometer readings during the twenty-four hours.

TABLE VIII.—Average Monthly Mean Temperature of Stations in Ceylon.

Stations.	Years.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year.
Colombo ...	18—19	79·0	80·1	82·0	82·8	82·5	81·0	80·6	80·5	80·7	80·2	79·8	79·0	80·7
Ratnapura ...	18—19	77·5	79·2	80·1	80·3	80·3	79·2	79·3	79·0	78·8	78·2	77·6	77·2	78·9
Puttalam ...	17—19	77·0	78·4	81·1	82·5	82·6	81·1	80·6	80·5	80·6	80·0	78·5	77·0	80·0
Anurádhapura	16—18	75·7	77·6	80·6	82·0	82·0	81·8	82·1	82·2	82·2	79·9	77·8	76·3	80·0
Mannár ...	17—18	78·1	79·4	81·8	84·5	84·7	83·6	82·5	82·2	82·4	81·4	79·6	78·0	81·5
Jaffna ...	17	77·5	79·1	82·6	85·3	84·8	83·4	82·5	82·2	82·1	81·2	78·9	77·3	81·4
Trincomalee...	15—17	77·2	78·5	80·7	82·7	83·4	83·1	82·5	81·7	81·7	80·1	78·1	77·1	80·6
Batticaloa ...	17—20	76·8	78·1	80·2	82·4	83·3	83·0	82·8	82·1	81·7	80·5	78·2	76·7	80·5
Hambantoṭa...	19—20	78·2	79·2	80·9	82·3	81·3	80·5	80·1	80·0	80·0	79·7	78·7	78·5	79·9
Galle ...	18—19	77·7	79·0	80·8	81·6	81·3	80·1	79·4	79·6	79·7	79·2	78·7	78·0	79·6
Kandy ...	17—19	73·2	74·8	77·5	77·9	77·9	75·5	75·0	75·1	75·0	74·7	74·3	73·6	75·4
Nuwara Eliya	18—19	56·5	57·1	58·7	59·4	60·1	57·5	56·6	56·8	57·2	57·5	57·5	56·8	57·6
Hakgala ...	4	58·5	59·4	62·5	63·2	63·8	61·8	61·4	61·8	61·9	61·0	60·0	58·7	61·2
Badulla ...	11—15	68·6	69·7	72·5	74·2	74·6	74·5	73·7	73·8	73·6	72·6	71·2	70·1	72·4
V.-Viláṇkulam	6—8	74·5	75·5	79·9	82·1	82·0	81·5	81·9	81·3	81·6	78·8	76·3	73·4	79·1
Kuruṇégala ...	1—3	77·6	77·9	81·5	81·8	82·0	80·2	80·0	79·9	80·6	78·8	78·6	76·5	79·6

Table IX. (in appendix) gives the monthly and yearly means of the daily readings; the monthly and yearly means of the readings at 9*h.* 30*m.* and 15*h.* 30*m.*; the monthly and yearly means of the maximum and minimum temperatures, with the mean daily range; the highest and lowest temperatures, the dates on which they occurred, and the yearly means; and the absolute range of temperature for each month and for the year.

Table X., below, shows the variations from the averages of Table VIII. of the monthly and yearly means for the year 1887.

TABLE X.—Comparison of Monthly Mean Temperature in 1887 with the Averages.

Stations.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year.
Colombo ...	+0·7	—0·2	—1·0	—1·8	—0·7	—1·6	—0·5	—0·5	—0·3	—1·5	+0·3	—0·8	—0·7
Ratnapura ...	+1·0	—2·0	—1·4	—2·5	—2·1	—0·7	?	?	+0·9	—0·3	+0·7	—0·9	?
Puttalam ...	—1·8	—3·0	—3·3	—3·5	—2·6	—3·1	—3·1	—2·4	—3·3	—4·7	—3·1	—4·2	—3·2
Anurádhapura ...	+0·4	—0·7	+0·5	—0·2	+0·3	?	?	+1·4	+1·8	—0·6	—0·2	—0·1	?
Mannár ...	+0·2	—0·8	+0·1	—1·3	—0·1	—1·1	—0·1	—0·4	+0·3	—2·0	+0·1	—0·8	—0·4
Jaffna ...	+0·2	—0·2	0·0	—0·6	—1·1	—1·6	—0·3	—0·3	+0·4	—1·6	0·0	—0·9	—0·5
Trincomalee ...	+0·2	—0·2	—0·6	—0·5	+1·6	+0·9	+0·7	+0·8	+0·5	—0·6	+0·5	—0·8	+0·2
Batticaloa ...	—1·0	—1·7	—1·7	—1·5	+0·1	—0·4	—0·1	—1·1	+0·5	—1·1	+0·3	—0·7	—0·7
Hambantoṭa ...	—0·2	—0·1	—1·0	—1·0	—1·4	—1·0	—0·5	—0·5	+0·6	—0·9	+0·4	—1·1	—0·5
Galle ...	0·0	—0·9	—0·9	—0·9	—0·1	—1·1	+0·3	+0·1	+0·4	—1·3	+0·2	—0·5	—0·4
Kandy ...	—0·7	—1·5	—1·5	—1·6	—0·7	—0·6	0·0	0·0	—0·1	—1·3	—0·1	—0·9	—0·8
Nuwara Eliya ...	—0·8	—0·9	—0·8	—1·1	—1·6	—2·5	—1·1	—0·4	—0·8	—1·2	—1·5	—1·0	—1·1
Hakgala ...	+1·5	+1·7	+1·9	+0·2	—0·8	—1·9	—0·9	—0·5	—0·5	—0·4	—0·2	—0·3	0·0
Badulla ...	—0·6	+0·5	—1·3	+1·5	—4·1	+2·7	?	+2·9	+3·1	+1·2	+1·5	—0·2	?
V.-Viláṇkulam ...	—1·7	—2·1	—1·5	—3·8	—0·8	—1·1	—0·7	—0·7	+0·6	—2·0	—0·9	—0·5	—1·3
Kuruṇégala ...	?	?	?	—0·8	—0·4	—1·0	—0·1	—0·3	?	—1·2	—0·2	—0·5	?

Table XI. (in appendix) gives the sea-level equivalents of the mean monthly temperatures in Table IX., omitting hill stations. The reduction to sea-level temperature has been made by adding one degree of temperature for every 450 ft. of elevation.

ATMOSPHERIC PRESSURE.

The barometer used at the Colombo Observatory is a standard, by Negretti and Zambra, which has been compared with the Kew standard. All the barometers at outstations are on Fortin's principle (constructed by Casella), and have been compared with the Colombo instrument. At all the stations the instruments are placed in buildings, except at Trincomalee, where they are placed in the thermometer shed, and are preserved, as far as possible, from extremes of temperature. I have great hope that the Assistant Government Agent at this station will see his way to provide better accommodation for the instrument.

Table XII., below, gives the monthly mean barometric readings deduced from observations in Ceylon extending over a series of years.

TABLE XII.—Average Monthly Mean Pressure of Stations in Ceylon.

Stations.	Years.	In.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year.
Colombo ...	18—19	29 +	·871	·869	·855	·811	·795	·807	·822	·823	·847	·846	·848	·859	·838
Ratnapura ...	17—19	29 +	·805	·803	·791	·755	·742	·756	·762	·764	·787	·788	·789	·797	·778
Puttalam ...	16—19	29 +	·907	·906	·878	·826	·803	·801	·822	·816	·848	·861	·873	·897	·853
Anurádhapura ...	16—18	29 +	·603	·588	·560	·508	·483	·473	·484	·490	·510	·526	·549	·573	·529
Mannár ...	13—14	29 +	·892	·877	·838	·781	·739	·742	·755	·759	·787	·807	·835	·868	·807
Jaffna ...	17	29 +	·948	·936	·895	·824	·768	·757	·774	·782	·812	·840	·882	·922	·845
Trincomalee ...	16—19	29 +	·865	·865	·827	·756	·699	·686	·699	·713	·735	·766	·806	·842	·771
Batticaloa ...	16—18	29 +	·933	·927	·892	·828	·779	·770	·783	·789	·812	·832	·872	·899	·843
Hambontoṭa ...	17—18	29 +	·849	·844	·839	·803	·770	·767	·771	·775	·796	·806	·829	·834	·807
Galle ...	17—19	29 +	·857	·856	·841	·799	·786	·794	·808	·810	·835	·833	·832	·844	·825
Kandy ...	17—19	28 +	·224	·221	·204	·162	·142	·150	·163	·162	·182	·190	·192	·206	·183
Nuwara Eliya ...	17—19	23 +	1·028	1·028	1·037	1·015	1·005	·994	·995	·995	1·009	1·016	1·032	1·033	1·016
Hakgala ...	4—5	24 +	·556	·553	·552	·532	·503	·478	·483	·482	·518	·522	·526	·542	·521
Badulla ...	8—11	27 +	·736	·733	·712	·672	·636	·628	·635	·635	·642	·673	·709	·707	·677
V.-Viláṇkulam ...	1—2	29 +	·612	·650	·584	·543	·492	·484	·495	·498	·526	·522	·592	·614	·551
Kurunégala ...	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?

Table XIII. (in appendix) gives the monthly and yearly means of the daily readings; the monthly and yearly means of the readings at 9*h.* 30*m.* and 15*h.* 30*m.*; the monthly and annual range; the highest and lowest monthly and yearly readings, with the dates on which they occurred; the yearly means of the maximum and minimum readings; and the absolute monthly and yearly range.

Table XIV., below, shows the variations from the averages in Table XII. of the monthly and yearly means for 1887.

TABLE XIV.—Comparison of Monthly Mean Pressure in 1887 with the averages of Table XII.

Stations.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year
Colombo ...	—·043	+·011	—·012	—·002	+·029	+·010	+·021	—·006	+·009	+·003	+·015	—·022	+·001
Ratnapura ...	—·046	—·014	—·025	—·013	+·012	—·013	—·001	—·011	—·004	—·008	+·005	—·028	—·012
Puttalam ...	—·054	—·005	—·036	—·032	—·008	—·013	—·014	—·056	—·026	—·024	—·019	—·044	—·028
Anurádhapura ...	+·015	+·052	+·029	+·034	+·045	?	?	+·013	+·010	+·025	+·036	+·050	?
Mannár ...	—·024	+·031	+·001	+·017	+·015	+·015	+·007	—·004	+·001	+·019	+·034	—·006	+·008
Jaffna ...	—·048	+·008	—·031	—·005	+·007	+·007	+·014	—·001	·000	+·004	+·015	—·029	—·005
Trincomalee ...	—·042	+·006	—·028	—·006	—·007	+·002	+·011	—·014	—·007	+·001	+·009	—·034	—·009
Batticaloa ...	—·070	—·023	—·039	—·017	—·008	+·001	—·001	—·007	—·014	—·006	+·004	—·041	—·018
Hambantoṭa ...	—·047	—·026	·000	+·056	+·080	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
Galle ...	—·041	+·019	—·003	+·006	+·031	+·011	+·024	·000	+·005	+·010	+·023	+·026	+·005
Kandy ...	—·049	—·005	—·031	—·019	+·017	—·005	—·001	—·017	—·001	—·004	+·010	—·032	—·011
Nuwara Eliya ...	—·036	—·006	—·029	—·015	—·006	—·017	—·013	—·028	—·035	—·046	—·052	?	?
Hakgala ...	—·044	—·002	—·025	—·024	—·004	—·011	—·004	—·007	—·024	—·010	+·007	—·028	—·015
Badulla ...	—·029	—·013	—·027	—·031	—·060	—·029	?	—·029	—·031	—·028	—·023	—·008	?
V.-Viláṇkulam ...	?	—·001	—·026	—·021	—·007	+·002	+·007	—·005	—·011	+·022	—·004	—·033	—·005
Kurunégala ...	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?

Table XV. (in appendix) gives the monthly and yearly means of pressure in 1887, according to the tables printed in the "Instructions to Observers at Ceylon Meteorological Stations."

WIND.

The instrument employed at the Colombo Observatory is a self-registering Beckley anemograph. It records the direction and velocity of the wind, continuously, on a revolving drum driven by clockwork. At outstations the instruments employed consist of the ordinary wind-vane for direction, and a Robinson anemometer for registering on a dial the distance travelled by the wind.

Table XVI. (in appendix) gives the number of times that each of eight wind-directions and calms were observed at 9*h.* 30*m.* and 15*h.* 30*m.* by the ordinary wind-vane at outstations; the trigonometrical resultant of these observations, computed by Lambert's formula; and the mean diurnal movement of the air; also the average monthly values of the last two data, computed from as many years as have furnished anemometric registers.

The Colombo anemograph records the number of miles travelled in each of sixteen directions.

HYGROMETRY.

The humidity of the air, the elastic force of aqueous vapour, and the temperature of the dew point are inferred from the relative temperatures of identical dry and wet-bulb thermometers, when exposed to the same conditions. In order that the evaporation of the water from the wet-bulb

may take place freely, the instruments are kept in outside sheds; if kept in rooms, the reading of the wet-bulb will not give a true indication, owing to restrained evaporation.

Table XVII. (in appendix) gives the monthly and yearly means of the readings of the wet-bulb at 9*h.* 30*m.* and 15*h.* 30*m.*; the monthly and yearly means of the minimum wet-bulb; the mean range and the adopted wet-bulb temperature of each month (the mean of the minimum 9*h.* 30*m.* and 15*h.* 30*m.* readings); also the difference of these several values and the corresponding air temperature.

Table XVIII. (in appendix) gives the mean vapour tensions of the several months of 1887, and of those observed at 9*h.* 30*m.* and 15*h.* 30*m.*, and also those deduced from the readings of the minimum dry and wet-bulb thermometers.

Table XIX., below, shows the average monthly and yearly mean vapour tension for different stations, deduced from observations extending over a number of years in Ceylon.

TABLE XIX.—Average Monthly Mean Vapour Tension in Decimals of an Inch.

Stations.	Years.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year.
Colombo ...	18—19	·761	775	·827	·876	·891	·863	·838	·843	·837	·879	·818	·789	·833
Ratnapura ...	16—19	·793	·790	·833	·878	·890	·879	·857	·847	·838	·841	·820	·813	·840
Puttalam ...	17—19	·790	·802	·884	·935	·943	·906	·887	·836	·891	872	·853	·814	·868
Anurádhapura	16—18	·741	·725	·775	·851	·878	·879	·833	·814	·780	·830	·810	771	·807
Manánr ...	17—18	·798	·796	·880	·963	·982	·955	·921	·916	·914	·902	·880	·790	·891
Jaffna ...	17	·752	·748	·860	·974	1·007	·974	·941	·940	·939	·912	·862	·754	·888
Trincomalee...	14—17	·766	·783	·837	·869	·866	·839	·817	·815	·797	·823	·824	·805	·820
Batticaloa ...	18—20	·829	·808	·864	·921	·929	·887	·878	·894	·892	·897	·871	·840	·876
Hambantoṭa...	16—18	·789	794	·842	·891	·899	·869	·830	·839	·840	·840	·828	·809	·839
Galle ...	18—19	·847	·866	·889	·929	·949	·937	·910	914	923	·910	·884	865	·902
Kandy ...	17—19	·627	·608	·649	·720	·739	·725	·707	·703	698	·704	·694	·667	·687
Nuwara Eliya.	17—19	·397	·371	·392	·430	·457	·450	·422	·425	·432	·382	·430	·416	·417
Hakgala ...	4	·430	·411	·429	·473	·510	·488	·473	·462	·453	·475	·477	·456	·462
Badulla ...	10—15	·596	·600	·645	·670	·698	·672	·647	·639	·631	·647	·643	·618	·642
V.-Viláṇkulam	6—8	·727	·732	·773	·867	·888	·877	·860	·840	·857	·812	·796	·764	·816
Kurunégala ...	1—3	·682	·663	·655	·871	·957	·912	·840	·827	·841	·823	·875	·784	·811

Table XX., below, shows the variation from the means of Table XIX. of the monthly mean vapour tension for 1887.

TABLE XX.—Comparison of Monthly Mean Vapour Tension in 1887 with the averages of Table XIX.

Stations.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year.
Colombo ...	—·072	—·098	—·070	—·047	—·071	—·117	—·093	—·094	—·081	—·080	—·006	+ ·001	—·069
Ratnapura ...	—·077	—·109	—·035	—·086	—·099	?	?	?	—·062	—·054	—·051	—·016	?
Puttalam ...	—·092	—·128	—·088	—·071	—·053	—·113	—·044	+ ·030	—·056	—·056	—·063	—·060	—·066
Anurádhapura ...	—·159	—·216	—·268	—·080	—·185	?	?	—·036	+ ·006	—·052	—·067	—·068	?
Mannár ...	+ ·003	—·018	—·022	—·052	—·007	—·014	+ ·018	+ ·018	+ ·037	—·073	—·026	+ ·047	—·008
Jaffna ...	—·024	—·046	—·046	—·018	—·054	—·076	—·050	+ ·004	—·044	—·040	—·018	+ ·057	—·032
Trincomalee ...	—·004	—·039	—·053	+ ·009	—·025	—·051	—·034	—·044	—·016	—·021	—·011	+ ·013	—·023
Batticaloa ...	—·062	—·063	—·063	—·069	—·042	—·057	—·037	?	?	?	+ ·004	—·011	?
Hambantoṭa ...	—·046	—·064	—·093	—·038	—·061	—·056	—·044	—·039	—·084	—·070	—·031	—·029	—·054
Galle ...	·000	—·045	—·082	+ ·019	+ ·012	—·017	+ ·001	+ ·003	+ ·007	—·011	+ ·033	+ ·008	—·006
Kandy ...	—·026	—·037	—·097	—·017	—·037	+ ·026	—·026	—·014	—·035	+ ·037	·000	+ ·024	—·023
Nuwara Eliya ...	—·037	—·039	—·108	—·004	—·005	—·023	—·026	+ ·002	—·030	+ ·037	—·010	+ ·013	—·019
Hakgala ...	—·003	+ ·014	—·022	—·009	—·031	—·019	+ ·020	+ ·034	—·013	—·020	—·013	+ ·016	—·004
Badulla ...	—·005	·000	—·026	+ ·005	+ ·059	+ ·047	?	+ ·051	+ ·038	+ ·034	+ ·025	+ ·017	?
V.-Viláṇkulam ...	—·108	—·163	—·158	—·123	—·129	—·142	—·135	—·142	—·184	—·093	—·069	—·064	—·126
Kurunégala ...	?	?	?	+ ·024	+ ·070	+ ·054	—·042	+ ·009	?	—·013	+ ·047	+ ·059	?

Table XXI., below, gives the average mean monthly humidity derived form observations made in Ceylon, extending over a number of years.

TABLE XXI.—Average Mean Monthly Relative Humidity.

Stations.	Years.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year.
Colombo ...	18—19	77	76	76	79	80	82	81	81	80	81	81	79	79
Ratnapura ...	16—19	85	80	82	85	86	88	86	86	86	88	87	87	85
Puttalam ...	17—19	86	84	84	84	84	86	85	86	85	86	88	88	86
Anurádhapura	16—18	83	78	75	79	81	81	76	75	76	82	86	85	80
Mannár ...	17—18	83	79	81	82	83	83	83	84	83	85	87	87	83
Jaffna ...	17	80	76	78	81	85	86	85	86	86	86	94	87	84
Trincomalee...	14—17	83	80	80	79	76	75	74	76	75	80	86	87	79
Batticaloa ...	17—20	88	85	84	83	82	79	79	82	83	86	89	91	84
Hambantoṭa...	16—18	83	80	80	82	85	84	81	82	82	83	83	83	82
Galle ...	18—19	89	87	85	86	83	91	90	91	91	91	91	90	89
Kandy ...	17—19	78	72	71	76	78	83	82	82	81	83	83	82	79
Nuwara Eliya.	17—19	87	76	80	85	88	95	91	91	92	92	91	90	88
Hakgala ...	4	87	79	74	80	84	88	86	83	81	87	91	92	84
Badulla ...	10—15	85	83	81	80	81	78	78	77	76	81	84	84	81
V.-Viláṇkulam	5—8	84	83	77	80	82	80	79	79	79	82	86	88	82
Kurunégala ...	1—3	73	71	64	80	88	88	82	81	80	84	89	84	80

Table XXII. (in appendix) gives the mean relative humidities of the several months in 1887 and of those observed at 9*h.* 30*m.* and 15*h.* 30*m.*, and also those deduced from the readings of the minimum dry and wet-bulb.

TABLE XXIII.—Comparison of Mean Monthly Relative Humidity of 1887, with the Averages of Table XXI.

Stations.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec	Year.
Colombo ...	— 9	— 6	— 4	— 1	— 4	— 8	— 8	— 8	— 7	0	— 1	+ 3	— 4
Ratnapura ...	— 5	— 6	— 9	— 3	— 4	?	?	?	— 8	— 5	— 7	+ 1	?
Puttalam ...	— 6	— 5	— 1	+ 2	+ 3	+ 2	+ 4	+ 3	+ 3	+ 6	+ 1	+ 5	+ 1
Anurádhapura ...	—19	—23	—25	— 7	—16	?	?	— 6	— 8	— 4	— 7	— 7	?
Mannár ...	— 1	0	— 2	— 2	— 1	+ 1	+ 1	— 1	+ 2	— 3	— 3	+ 3	0
Jaffna ...	— 3	— 4	— 4	— 3	— 3	— 3	— 4	0	— 6	— 6	— 9	+ 2	— 3
Trincomalee ...	— 1	— 3	— 4	+ 1	— 4	— 7	— 4	— 7	— 4	— 7	— 3	+ 3	— 3
Batticaloa ...	— 2	— 3	— 3	— 3	— 4	— 5	— 4	?	?	?	0	+ 1	?
Hambantoṭa ...	— 6	— 6	— 5	— 1	— 3	— 3	— 3	— 2	— 8	— 5	— 3	0	— 4
Galle ...	0	— 2	— 1	+ 4	+ 7	+ 1	0	— 1	— 1	+ 6	+ 2	+ 3	+ 1
Kandy ...	— 2	— 3	— 6	+ 1	— 2	+ 3	— 5	— 3	— 4	— 2	— 1	+ 4	— 1
Nuwara Eliya ...	— 7	— 4	—20	+ 2	+ 3	+ 2	— 2	+ 2	— 5	— 1	+ 1	+ 6	— 2
Hakgala ...	— 6	— 2	—14	— 2	— 1	+ 3	+ 7	+ 8	— 1	— 1	— 2	+ 4	0
Badulla ...	— 3	— 2	+ 1	— 3	— 4	— 1	?	— 1	— 3	0	0	+ 3	?
V.-Viláṇkulam ...	— 7	—12	—11	— 3	— 9	— 7	— 9	—10	—14	— 4	— 4	— 2	— 8
Kurunégala ...	?	?	?	+ 4	+ 7	+ 8	+ 4	+ 1	?	+ 1	+ 5	+10	?

CLOUD PROPORTION.

The relative proportion of cloud is determined in the usual manner by estimating the average amount of sky covered, 10 denoting a sky entirely and continuously overcast, and zero a cloudless sky.

Table XXIV., below, shows the average proportion of clouded sky in each month, deduced from the registers of past years.

TABLE XXIV.—Average Proportion of Clouded Sky in each month, deduced from the Register of past Years.

Stations.	Years.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year.
Colombo ...	18—19	5·0	4·0	4·4	5·5	6·9	7·5	6·8	6·9	6·8	6·9	6·3	5·8	6·1
Ratnapura ...	18—19	6·0	5·2	5·5	6·2	7·2	7·4	7·0	7·3	6·9	6·9	6·5	6·6	6·5
Puttalam ...	17—19	7·1	6·7	6·6	7·0	7·3	7·5	7·1	7·3	7·0	7·4	7·6	7·3	7·2
Anurádhapura	17—18	3·2	2·6	2·7	3·2	3·2	3·2	2·8	3·1	2·9	3·9	4·3	4·4	3 3
Mannár ...	17—18	4·6	3·5	3·6	4·4	4·9	5·6	5·4	5·4	5·1	5·9	6·2	6·0	5·0
Jaffna ...	17	4·7	3·1	2·8	4·0	4·3	5·6	5·5	5·6	5·0	5 8	6·5	6·3	4·9
Trincomalee...	17—19	5·9	4·5	4·0	4·2	5·1	6·1	5·8	5·8	5·7	6·0	6·2	6·5	5·5
Batticaloa ...	18—19	7·1	6·3	5·8	6·1	6·3	7·0	6·9	7·0	6·5	6·6	7·2	7·3	6·7
Hambantoṭa...	19—20	6·7	6·2	5·8	6·9	7·1	7·8	7·6	7·7	7·4	7·4	7 0	6·7	7·0
Galle ...	18—19	5·5	4·8	4·7	5·8	6·5	6·8	6·3	6·4	6·2	6·6	6·8	5·6	6·0
Kandy ...	18—19	5·2	4·4	4·6	5·4	5·7	6·8	6·5	6·5	6·3	6·4	5·9	6·1	5·8
Nuwara Eliya	18—19	4·8	3·8	4·2	5·2	6·0	7·9	7·2	7·1	6 6	6·5	5·7	5·6	5·9
Hakgala ...	4—5	7·9	5·6	4·8	6·0	6 9	7 8	7·2	7·5	7·0	7·9	8·4	8 3	7·1
Badulla ...	10—14	6·6	4·9	4·7	5·3	5·3	6·1	6·4	6·3	5·6	6·2	6·4	7·1	5·9
V.-Viláṇkulam	6—7	5·1	4·1	4·2	5·0	5·3	5·6	5·2	5 4	5·3	6·1	6 6	6·6	5·4
Kurunégala ...	2—3	6·8	4·9	5·8	7·4	8·1	7·4	7·5	7·6	7·0	7·5	7·2	7·5	7·1

Table XXV. (in appendix) gives the monthly means of the observations, and the means of the daily averages at 9*h.* 30*m.* and 15*h.* 30*m.*

Table XXVI., below, shows the variations from the averages in Table XXIV. of the values for 1887.

TABLE XXVI.—Comparison of the Mean Cloud Proportion in 1887, with the Averages of Table XXIV.

Stations.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year.
Colombo ...	+ 0·1	— 0·7	— 1·6	+ 1·0	+ 0·4	+ 0·2	— 0·4	+ 0 1	— 0·8	+ 0·6	— 1·2	+ 1·9	— 0·1
Ratnapura ...	+ 0·3	+ 0·1	— 0·3	+ 1·2	+ 0·3	+ 0·9	— 0·6	— 0·3	0	+ 0·9	+ 0 1	+ 2·0	+ 0·4
Puttalam ...	+ 0·3	+ 0·4	+ 0·6	+ 0·9	+ 0·8	+ 0·5	+ 0·6	+ 0·7	+ 0·2	+ 0·9	+ 0·6	+ 1·3	+ 0·6
Anurádhapura ...	— 0·1	+ 2·4	— 0·2	— 0 1	— 0·5	?	?	— 0·6	— 0·3	+ 0·3	0	+ 1·8	?
Mannár ...	— 0·2	— 0·1	— 0·4	+ 1·8	+ 1·1	— 0·1	+ 0·1	— 0·6	— 0·2	+ 1 3	— 0·6	+ 1·4	+ 0·3
Jaffna ...	+ 2·7	+ 2·7	+ 1·6	+ 3·4	+ 2·1	+ 1·6	+ 1·7	+ 1·0	+ 0·9	+ 2·0	+ 0·5	+ 1·9	+ 1 9
Trincomalee ...	— 0·8	— 0·1	— 1·0	+ 0·9	— 0·3	— 0·6	— 0·2	— 0·4	— 1·1	+ 0 5	— 0 8	+ 1·2	— 0·2
Batticaloa ...	+ 0 4	+ 0·9	+ 0·9	+ 0·8	+ 0·3	+ 0·1	— 0·2	— 0·8	— 0·5	+ 0·3	— 0·9	0	+ 0·1
Hambantoṭa ...	— 0·5	— 1·0	— 1·7	— 1·1	— 0·2	— 0·8	— 0·6	0	— 1·8	+ 0·2	— 0·6	+ 1·1	— 0·6
Galle ...	— 1·0	— 0 9	— 1·8	— 1·2	— 1·8	— 1·6	— 2·0	— 1·6	— 2·2	— 0·4	— 2·5	— 0·1	— 1·4
Kandy ...	+ 0·4	+ 0·9	— 0·7	+ 0·7	+ 0·1	+ 0·2	— 0·5	— 0·4	0	+ 0·5	+ 0·3	+ 1·7	+ 0·3
Nuwara Eliya ...	— 0·1	— 0·5	— 2·1	+ 0·6	— 0·4	— 0·8	— 2·8	— 2 4	— 1·0	— 0·1	— 0·6	+ 0·1	— 0·9
Hakgala ...	— 1·0	— 0·1	— 1·8	+ 0·9	— 1·1	— 0·8	— 1·3	— 0·6	— 0·8	— 0·2	— 0·6	+ 1·0	— 0·5
Badulla ...	— 1·3	— 0·9	— 1·0	— 0·2	+ 0·7	— 1·4	?	— 0·5	— 1·4	— 0 6	+ 0·2	+ 0 3	?
V.-Viláṇkulam ...	+ 0·6	+ 0·6	+ 0·3	+ 1·4	+ 0·6	+ 0·5	+ 0·8	+ 0·8	+ 0·3	+ 0·2	— 0·2	— 0·2	+ 0·5
Kurunégala ...	— 0·2	— 0·2	— 0·4	— 0·1	— 0·4	+ 0·9	— 0·1	— 0·2	— 0·8	+ 0·1	— 1 1	+ 0 5	— 0·2

Table XXVII., below, gives the mean monthly and yearly rainfall, deduced from observations extending over a long series of years in Ceylon.

TABLE XXVII.—Average Monthly and Annual Rainfall of sixteen Principal Stations in Ceylon.

Stations.	Years.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year.
Colombo ...	18	3·00	1·74	5·27	9·58	13·29	8·13	5·23	4·46	4·67	12·90	12·37	6·41	87·05
Ratnapura ...	18	4·88	4·20	8·31	11·76	19·06	20·40	11·97	13·77	14·06	18·04	14·93	8 84	150·22
Puttalam ...	17—18	1·76	1·62	3·13	5·42	3·89	1·62	0·50	1·18	1·14	7·37	10 84	6·81	45·28
Anurádhapura	17—18	2·63	1·49	3·03	7·49	3 75	1·67	0·91	2·43	2·92	7·54	11·98	9·40	55·24
Mannár ...	17—18	2·07	1·44	1·40	2·14	2·57	0·84	0 23	0·62	0·77	8·29	10·43	8·82	39·62
Jaffna ...	17	2·11	1·51	1·19	2·06	2·19	1·12	0 63	1·17	2·68	9·64	14·27	10·68	49·25
Trincomalee...	17—18	5·75	2·33	1·21	1·75	2·10	1·96	2·19	4·53	4·44	8·78	12·86	14·21	62·11
Batticaloa ...	17—18	7·76	3·52	3·03	1·46	1·85	1·24	0·81	2·78	2·22	5·54	12·50	10·67	53·38
Hambantota...	18	2·93	1·74	2·07	1·97	3·66	2·10	1·31	1·48	2·41	4·10	6·57	4·85	35·19
Galle ...	18	4·44	3·49	4·45	8·90	11·25	8·19	5·54	5·43	7·34	13·23	11·60	6·83	90·69
Kandy ...	18	4·96	2·77	2·97	7·27	6·51	8·97	7·66	6·13	5·75	9·32	11 70	8·82	82·83
Nuwara Eliya	17—18	5·26	2·49	2·84	5·73	8·06	14·19	13·52	9·07	8·80	10·85	9·18	8·84	98 83
Hakgala ...	4—5	6·60	2·65	2·88	4·52	7·58	7 46	6·61	5·53	5 77	10 22	9·49	15·76	85·07
Badulla ...	11—13	9·66	3·89	2·99	9·43	5·88	2·60	1·47	4·64	3 13	8·47	13 01	14·17	79·34
V.-Vilápkulam	7	3·02	3·12	1·20	3·77	2·97	1 60	0·96	2·74	3·08	11·17	10·36	14·84	58·83
Kurunégala ...	2—3	4·41	1·48	2·44	9·80	5·20	9·90	4 99	6·21	4·45	17·57	14·72	7 78	88·95

Table XXVIII., below, shows the variations from the means in Table XXVII. of the rainfall for 1887.

TABLE XXVIII.—Comparison of the Monthly and Annual Rainfall in 1887, with the Averages of Table XXVII.

Stations.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year.
Colombo ...	—0·69	+0·46	—3·61	+14·22	+0·85	—1·55	—4·05	+0·39	— 4·19	+0 53	—5·83	+ 0·57	— 2 90
Ratnapura ...	—2·82	—2·00	—4·70	+ 4·25	+7·59	+8·06	—4·22	+1·24	—11·06	—5 15	+2·28	+ 2·40	— 4·13
Puttalam ...	—1·63	—0·78	—1·03	+ 1·88	—1·98	—0·54	+0·05	—1·16	— 1·14	+5 47	—0·74	+10·54	+ 8·94
Anurádhapura ...	—1·77	+1·23	—0·82	+ 3·96	—3·75	—0·76	—0·91	—2·14	— 2·92	+8·04	—5·52	+17·13	+11·77
Mannár ...	—1·87	—0·43	+2·95	— 0·48	—2·47	+1·49	—0·23	—0·62	— 0·75	+3·98	—3·54	+14·23	+12 26
Jaffna ...	—1·36	+0·55	—0·19	+ 0 37	—1·92	+2·05	—0·62	—0·10	— 2·01	+5·89	—7·51	+11·32	+ 6·47
Trincomalee ...	—5·22	—1·95	—0·95	+ 2·12	—1·01	+0 67	—0·16	+4·68	— 2·92	—1·05	—4 34	+13·61	+ 3·48
Batticaloa ...	—2·31	+3·64	—2·98	— 0·36	—1·66	+0 08	—0·62	+0·26	— 1·32	+0 83	—7·47	+13·45	+ 1 54
Hambantota ...	—1·60	—1·59	—0·49	+ 1·90	—2·19	+0·22	+0·98	—0·18	— 2·41	+0·57	—1·87	+ 4·22	— 2·44
Galle ...	+0·87	+2·69	—3·68	+ 2·79	—6·07	—0·02	—3·08	+3·11	— 4·54	+3·98	+1·73	+ 2·80	+ 0·62
Kandy ...	—1·22	+2·70	—1·80	+ 5·71	—4·17	—1 61	—3·01	—2·15	— 1 37	+2·64	+1 90	+ 7·49	+ 5·11
Nuwara Eliya ...	—3·56	+0·23	—2·12	+ 2 34	—3·24	—5·25	—4·57	—4 94	— 0·90	+5 69	+0 30	+11·49	— 4·53
Hakgala ...	—1·71	+1·02	—1·67	+ 2·96	+0·62	—3 01	—1·56	—2·21	+ 0·66	—0·18	+3·91	+18·01	+16·84
Badulla ...	—5·90	—0·94	—2·68	— 1 31	+3·02	—1·59	—0·35	+0·87	— 2·98	—0 77	—0 29	+27·62	+14·70
V.-Vilápkulam ...	—2·47	—2·63	—0 28	+ 3·28	—2·97	—0·89	—0·83	—0 45	— 2 62	0·22	—2·62	+14 35	+ 1·65
Kurunégala ...	—2·51	+0 66	—0·21	+ 4·27	—1·95	—1·11	—2·16	—0·58	— 2·33	+4·79	+0·58	+ 6·39	+ 6·26

Tables XXIX. and XXX. (in appendix) give respectively the amount of rainfall and the number of days on which it was measured at the sixteen principal stations.

THE METEOROLOGY OF THE YEAR 1887.

GENERAL REMARKS.

Air Temperature.—The following remark extracted from my report for 1886 has been borne out by the experience of 1887.

"In comparing the records since 1882, we see that there has been an undoubted fall of temperature throughout the Island until the present year. In the Indian Meteorological Report for 1884 it was stated that the temperature had been observed to be gradually increasing until the year 1878,—the year of minimum sun-spots,—and that since then it had been decreasing. In 1884 the temperature was from one to two thirds of a degree lower than in 1878."

The mean temperature of the year has been below the average at every station except Trincomalee,—and perhaps Badulla, where the incompleteness of the records does not allow of a strict comparison.

Atmospheric Pressure.—The results for the year are like those of 1886, but unlike those of 1885, for the most part below the average.

Hygrometry.—During this year the vapour tension and mean relative humidity at the low-country stations is below the average, but at the hill stations the average is generally higher. This, perhaps, is partly due to greater carefulness on the part of the observers in keeping the wet-bulb thermometer moist and well exposed.

Surveyor-General's Office,
Colombo, June 30, 1888.

F. C. H. CLARKE, Lieut.-Col. R. A.,
Surveyor-General.

APPENDIX.

TABLE III.—Equilibrium Temperatures of Solar Radiation for 1887.

Month.	Mean.	Maximum.		Minimum.		Difference, Sun and Shade.		
		Day.	°	Day.	°	Mean.	Max.	Min.
1.—COLOMBO.								
January	141·2	27th	150·2	29th	127·6	53·2	64·0	40·3
February	142·6	10th	145·8	27th	135·0	54·1	57·3	49·4
March	140·6	22nd	147·5	19th	129·5	52·4	61·3	40·5
April	138·9	20th	148·0	28th	90·0	51·4	59·1	7·1
May	137·7	18th	145·0	31st	88·0	51·1	58·6	18·7
June	135·6	19th	150·2	1st	112·0	51·4	66·0	8·3
July	140·9	10th	145·7	9th	127·0	56·3	61·7	42·6
August	140·4	28th	146·0	31st	125·5	55·2	59·6	51·2
September	141·0	27th	145·5	1st	135·0	55·8	61·0	44·5
October	139·9	5th	146·8	31st	120·0	55·1	59·2	46·8
November	140·4	29th	147·0	27th	136·2	54·2	60·7	36·5
December	136·3	14th	151·2	26th	105·8	51·1	62·3	25·8
Year	139·6	Dec. 14th	151·2	May 31st	88·0	53·4	66·0	8·3
Means of extremes ...	—	—	147·4	—	119·3	—	60·9	34·3
2.—RATNAPURA.								
January, February, March (Instruments stolen)		—	—	—	—	—	—	—
April	146·9	12th	160·1	28th	119·0	56·8	68·0	40·0
May	143·2	19th	152·0	18th	120·7	55·8	68·9	33·4
June	140·2	4th	154·0	11th	120·0	56·6	70·9	38·9
July	141·5	—	148·0	23rd	134·0	55·8	61·7	49·9
August	141·4	26th	150·1	30th	125·0	56·3	67·4	44·9
September	145·0	16th	152·0	10th	135·5	58·6	64·9	52·0
October	143·0	14th	156·0	9th	126·0	57·7	70·1	43·2
November	149·4	7th	156·0	—	146·8	62·1	70·9	58·7
December	144·7	29th	159·0	29th	132·0	61·5	71·9	51·9
Year	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
Means of extremes ...	—	—	?	—	?	—	?	?
3.—PUTTALAM.								
January	142·4	27th	149·0	4th	119·0	59·1	68·0	38·0
February	141·6	—	150·0	20th	116·0	54·3	63·0	31·3
March	139·1	22nd	153·0	—	135·0	51·7	63·3	46·3
April	141·1	—	150·0	28th	116·0	53·4	65·0	33·0
May	139·3	7th	151·0	24th	130·0	53·9	65·3	45·8
June	136·4	7th	146·0	—	130·0	52·4	62·8	46·0
July (Instrument out of order)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
August	143·3	—	149·0	17th	136·0	57·6	64·0	51·0
September	145·8	2nd	151·0	11th	140·0	59·7	65·0	52·3
October	142·0	12th	151·0	29th	126·0	56·7	66·0	43·0
November	144·3	9th	154·0	4th	130·0	57·5	66·8	43·3
December	134·0	—	150·0	23rd	87·0	50·2	66·1	9·0
Year	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
Means of extremes ...	—	—	?	—	?	—	?	?
4.—ANURÁDHAPURA.								
January	153·5	23rd	157·0	5th	145·5	66·1	71·0	63·7
February	148·9	5th	159·0	19th	123·5	59·4	71·2	35·0
March	152·7	17th	160·2	1st	149·0	57·7	61·9	51·9
April	151·0	11th	156·0	27th	133·0	57·5	61·3	41·5
May	151·0	17th	153·6	21st	143·4	57·9	60·2	51·4
June, July (incomplete) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
August	—	24th	163·1	—	154·3	62·2	67·0	56·9
September	158·2	28th	166·8	31st	149·3	56·7	65·7	53·7
October	153·4	2nd	161·4	19th	140·0	62·7	73·2	51·0
November	152·9	18th	157·0	21st	142·0	62·3	75·1	51·4
December	151·1	5th	154·0	29th	122·0	61·4	70·0	36·5
Year	146·0	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
Means of extremes ...	—	—	?	?	?	—	?	?
5.—MANNÁR.								
January	138·5	—	145·0	19th	124·0	54·2	60·0	39·5
February	141·5	—	149·0	7th	135·5	54·7	61·0	49·0
March	143·9	—	151·0	21st	130·0	52·3	60·0	45·5
April	143·9	14th	154·0	28th	136·0	52·3	60·0	46·0
May	142·6	28th	150·0	4th	136·0	52·2	61·0	45·0
June	142·7	23rd	150·0	15th	137·3	54·3	61·5	49·3
July	145·7	11th	152·0	3rd	138·0	56·6	64·6	51·0
August	145·0	26th	151·0	9th	137·0	55·5	60·6	48·0
September	146·9	4th	153·0	29th	140·0	57·3	62·5	51·5
October	142·0	23rd	154·0	8th	123·0	55·7	66·0	40·0
November	141·6	12th	153·0	23rd	128·5	55·5	64·8	42·8
December	125·0	6th	149·0	—	95·0	43·4	65·5	16·8
Year	141·6	—	154·0	Nov. 23rd	95·0	53·7	66·0	16·8
Means of extremes ...	—	—	151·0	—	130·0	—	62·3	43·7

TABLE III. *(continued)*.—Solar Radiation.

Month.	Mean.	Maximum.		Minimum.		Difference, Sun and Shade.		
		Day.	°	Day.	°	Mean.	Max.	Min.
6.—JAFFNA.								
January	147·8	10th	157·8	3rd	136·0	62·2	73·0	53·0
February	146·9	25th	153·7	8th	135·6	59·7	64·4	53·6
March	147·4	17th	158·3	26th	142·2	56·8	64·7	51·5
April	151·8	9th	159·3	28th	97·5	60·0	65·0	16·8
May	127·0	7th	135·0	22nd	116·4	38·6	44·0	31·7
June	126·7	5th	134·0	12th	120·6	40·2	48·6	34·8
July	127·3	10th	136·5	13th	119·4	40·1	48·5	35·2
August	129·8	3rd	142·0	15th	120·0	42·6	50 5	36·0
September	132·9	—	137·0	25th	126·0	47·9	52·0	42·1
October	129·0	3rd	141·0	28th	104·0	?	?	?
November	130·1	22nd	137·0	6th	117·3	47·3	57·0	35·0
December	122·4	2nd	135·0	16th	98·0	42·7	52·5	21·0
Year	134·8	April 9th	159·3	April 28th	97·5	?	?	?
Means of extremes ...	—	—	143·9	—	119·4	—	?	?
7.—TRINCOMALEE.								
January, February, March (incorrect) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
April	140·0	21st	163·0	3rd	104·0	50·2	65·9	14·1
May (incorrect) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
June	136·5	15th	154·5	21st	103·0	40·1	56 3	3·9
July	134·4	15th	156·0	2nd	105·0	38·1	58·3	14·2
August	136·3	10th	163·0	13th	100·0	39·7	65·3	7·9
September	144·0	25th	161·0	4th	101·0	48·2	62·4	9·2
October	147·5	30th	164·0	18th	117·0	57·1	76·1	30·4
November	144·0	—	155 5	23rd	112·0	57·0	70·8	28·7
December	137·3	9th	153·0	24th	96·0	53·3	68·9	15·2
Year	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
Means of extremes ...	—	—	?	—	?	—	?	?
8.—BATTICALOA.								
January	140·3	28th	150·0	20th	105·0	58·0	66·5	27·0
February	144·1	8th	153·0	20th	131·5	60·5	69·0	49·5
March	143·5	22nd	150·0	2nd	135·0	55·7	62·0	48·0
April	145·2	16th	152·0	11th	138·4	54·5	60·0	47·8
May	147·9	15th	153·6	1st	139·2	53·8	58·7	46·4
June	148·5	18th	154·0	3rd	140·8	55·0	58·0	48·8
July	148 7	14th	155·0	2nd	140·4	54·7	59·2	46·6
August	144·0	10th	156·0	—	140·0	53·5	62·8	49·0
September	147·3	1st	157·0	28th	140·0	53·7	65·0	45·0
October	145·7	10th	158·0	27th	130·2	56·2	68·0	46·3
November	143·4	—	150·0	18th	138·0	56 8	65·0	51·0
December	133·8	13th	152·0	22nd	96·0	51·0	68·2	16·0
Year	144·4	October 10th	158·0	December 22nd	96·0	55·3	69·0	16·0
Means of extremes ...	—	—	153·4	—	131·2	—	63·5	43·4
9.—HAMBANTOTA.								
January	134·4	23rd	145·0	13th	107·0	?	?	?
February	136·5	—	140·0	26th	132·0	?	?	?
March	135·7	—	142·2	—	133·0	?	?	?
April	134·4	—	138·0	27th	127·0	?	?	?
May	131·5	2nd	139·0	24th	122·0	46·3	52·0	38·9
June	133·2	23rd	138·0	9th	129·0	48·0	50·9	44·9
July	133·3	26th	140·0	18th	128·0	47·5	50·9	43 9
August	133·5	—	140·0	30th	127·0	47·9	54·9	42·9
September	133·5	3rd	141·0	—	130·0	46·3	50·9	44·9
October	133·2	11th	143·0	29th	121·0	47·8	61·9	38·9
November	137·4	—	145·0	16th	129·0	52·2	60·9	45·9
December	132·8	—	142·0	23rd	95·0	50·0	57·9	15·9
Year	134·1	—	145·0	December 23rd	95·0	?	?	?
Means of extremes ...	—	—	141·1	—	123·3	?	—	?
10.—GALLE.								
January	137·6	—	142·0	8th	130·0	56·1	60·8	48·5
February, March, April (out of order) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
May	141·0	8th	148·0	22nd	130·0	46·9	61·5	49·0
June	134·0	4th	138·0	6th	123·0	52·1	56·0	42·9
July	138·0	13th	142·0	—	135·0	55·8	58·8	53·9
August	137·5	—	144·0	30th	120·0	55·0	59·8	38·7
September	137·0	27th	142·0	14th	136·0	53·9	57·8	21·0
October	126·2	1st	141·0	31st	94·0	45·1	57·0	19·3
November	127·0	21st	139·0	7th	100·0	44·7	55 0	14·2
December	131·6	7th	139·0	—	129·0	50·3	56·0	47·1
Year	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
Means of extremes ...	—	—	?	—	?	—	?	?

TABLE III. *(continued)*.—Solar Radiation.

Month.	Mean.	Maximum.		Minimum.		Difference, Sun and Shade.		
		Day.	°	Day.	°	Mean.	Max.	Min.
11.—KANDY.								
January	139·5	3rd	151·0	14th	120·6	54·9	65·2	40·2
February	142·7	—	148·6	20th	108·6	56·0	61·5	22·8
March	144·3	23rd	155·0	12th	139·2	54·2	66 6	49·0
April	146·9	8th	154·0	1st	141·4	57·6	65·2	49·8
May	143·0	30th	150·2	22nd	128·0	55·6	62·4	43·6
June	138·8	12th	148·5	2nd	128·6	55·3	63·7	45·0
July	138·9	9th	150·4	3rd	120·0	55·3	67·6	38·8
August	144·3	8th	151·8	31st	125·0	58·5	66·6	54·4
September	140·9	30th	148·2	10th	129·0	55·2	63·0	39·2
October	139·8	20th	150·5	8th	118·4	52·8	66·8	29·0
November	145·2	3rd	150·0	1st	130·4	59·5	64·8	49·0
December	133·4	4th	156·2	24th	90·5	51·1	71·7	5·9
Year	141·5	December 4th	156·2	December 24th	90·5	55·5	71·7	5·9
Means of extremes ...	—	—	151·2	—	122·5	—	65·4	38·9
12.—NUWARA ELIYA.								
January	127·1	9th	142·4	—	95·6	60·0	71·1	32·3
February	130·9	21st	141·5	20th	104·2	62·3	73·1	42·8
March	132·9	24th	144·2	8th	122·4	61·0	72·7	51·9
April	131·2	—	142 6	11th	118·2	60·5	71·3	49·2
May	127·3	1st	140·2	22nd	98·4	57·7	67·3	37·1
June	111·6	27th	131·2	11th	76·4	49·0	75·0	17·8
July	110·7	19th	132·7	1st	76·0	45·6	66·2	8·2
August	122·8	23rd	138·2	8th	106·2	57·0	68·9	43·6
September	115·2	23rd	139·2	—	86·2	49·9	67·6	25·6
October	125·8	5th	139·7	31st	95·6	59·0	77·4	34·0
November	128·7	8th	142·7	29th	90·2	61·8	73·9	27 2
December	115·5	1st	145·4	23rd	79·5	51·3	77·4	17·5
Year	123·3	December 1st	145·4	July 1st	76·0	56·3	77·4	8·2
Means of extremes ...	—	—	140·0	—	95·7	—	71·8	32·3
13.—HAKGALA.								
January	114·5	5th	133·0	12th	80·0	50·7	71·0	21·0
February	128·2	11th	138·0	21st	115·0	?	?	?
March	131·1	22nd	145·0	5th	121·0	58·2	74·0	47·0
April	134·8	—	142·0	6th	124·0	63·1	72·0	55·5
May	131·0	7th	140·0	21st	100·0	59·9	67·0	35·0
June	125·8	26th	138·0	11th	88·0	59·6	71·0	26·0
July	122·9	7th	139·0	9th	100·0	56·5	70·5	35·5
August	128·7	13th	142 0	6th	114·0	59·4	72·0	44·0
September	126·0	—	140·0	15th	103·0	57·5	73·0	38·0
October	126·3	—	142·0	9th	104·0	58·5	69·0	41·0
November	127·2	7th	140·0	1st	95·0	61·2	71·5	33·5
December	103·4	7th	136·0	—	74·0	41·2	69·0	14·0
Year	125·0	March 22nd	145·0	—	74·0	?	?	?
Means of extremes ...	—	—	139·6	—	101·5	—	?	?
14.—BADULLA.								
January	148·2	4th	157·0	6th	137·0	?	?	?
February	148·2	17th	159·0	1st	139·5	?	?	?
March	146·9	30th	156·0	—	140·0	?	?	?
April	149·9	—	156·0	—	145·0	?	?	?
May	149 8	11th	154·0	—	147·0	?	?	?
June	150·6	8th	160·0	16th	146·0	?	?	?
July (incomplete) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
August	148·5	22nd	153·0	31st	140·0	?	?	?
September	150·1	5th	158·0	11th	140·0	?	?	?
October	150·3	15th	155·0	13th	145·0	?	?	?
November	148·5	15th	158·0	18th	138·0	?	?	?
December	149·0	30th	154·0	12th	144·0	?	?	?
Year	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
Means of extremes ...	—	—	?	—	?	—	?	?
15.—VAVUNIYA-VILANKULAM.								
January	151·3	21st	160·0	24th	140·0	66·2	72·6	56·0
February	149·5	10th	159·0	20th	118·0	62·0	68·5	31·3
March	152·5	19th	160·0	26th	145·0	58·0	65·2	50·0
April	155·1	—	164·0	28th	136·0	62·3	70·4	48·4
May	150·0	—	157·0	21st	139·0	56 2	62·0	46·0
June	151·6	21st	160·4	11th	143·0	57·8	61·4	51·0
July	148·4	29th	158·0	11th	129·0	54·0	62·0	39·0
August	153·8	21st	163·0	8th	137·0	59·9	65·0	47·0
September	155·6	—	165·0	4th	137·0	59·9	74·5	46·6
October	148·7	—	163·0	8th	116·0	59·0	77·0	33·0
November	152·0	9th	163·0	28th	107·0	65·8	78·0	29·6
December	136·2	9th	159·0	23rd	86·0	54·2	75·0	10·6
Year	150·4	—	165 0	Dec. 23rd	86·0	59·5	78·0	10·6
Means of extremes ...	—	—	160·9	—	127·7	—	69·3	40·7

TABLE III. *(continued)*.—Solar Radiation.

Month.	Mean.	Maximum.		Minimum.		Difference, Sun and Shade.		
		Day.	°	Day.	°	Mean.	Max.	Min.
16.—KURUNEGALA.								
January ...	148·6	—	158 5	21st	128·5	?	?	?
February ...	145·9	10th	156·6	20th	107·0	?	?	?
March ...	151·1	—	160·0	26th	144·0	?	?	?
April ...	153·4	—	158·0	—	149·0	?	?	?
May ...	147·2	14th	159·0	22nd	90·0	57·5	67·8	8·5
June ...	144·8	5th	159·0	27th	126·0	58·1	71·0	42·7
July ...	144 8	30th	152·5	7th	129·5	57·9	64·0	44·5
August ...	147·7	11th	157·5	31st	132·8	60·1	69·5	49·0
September ..	148·3	25th	158 5	1st	139·0	60·6	67·5	50·0
October ...	148·8	24th	161·0	19th	124·5	60·9	70·5	36·7
November ..	148·4	—	154·0	23rd	133·5	59 9	68·0	46·5
December ...	136·9	9th	158 0	22nd	108·5	52·8	70·0	27·0
Year ...	147·2	Oct. 24th	161·0	May 22nd	90 0	?	?	?
Means of extremes ...	—	—	157·7	—	126·0	—	?	?

TABLE IV.—Temperature of Nocturnal Radiation in 1887.

Month.	Mean.	Maximum.		Minimum.		Difference, Shade and Temperature.		
		Day.	°	Day.	°	Mean.	Max.	Min.
1.—COLOMBO.								
January ...	66·4	2nd	71·5	30th	58·0	5·4	9·9	1·8
February ...	65·0	23rd	71·0	5th	56·0	[illegible]	10·6	3·0
March ...	67·0	30th	73 8	4th	62·0	6[illegible]	9 0	2 5
April ...	71·5	23rd	77 0	28th	65·5	3·5	6·3	1·8
May ...	73·0	10th	75 2	30th	69 5	4·5	7·1	2 3
June ...	70·9	23rd	73·4	15th	68·0	4·2	6·3	2·8
July ...	71·3	—	72 5	10th	68·8	4·5	6·3	2·8
August ...	71·3	—	72·5	7th	67·5	4·2	5·8	2·8
September ...	72·0	25th	73·6	1st	69·5	3·7	5·2	2·0
October ...	70·1	9th	74·0	23rd	67·6	3·3	4·6	2·3
November ..	70·6	6th	73·8	22nd	66·8	2·9	5·5	0·8
December ...	69·5	—	71·3	31st	67·5	2·8	4·2	1·8
Year ...	69·9	April 23rd	77·0	February 5th	56·0	4·3	10·6	0·8
Means of extremes ...	—	—	73·3	—	65·6	—	6·7	2·2
2.—RATNAPURA.								
January, February, March (not recorded)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
April ...(incorrect) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
May	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
June	70·4	—	72·5	4th	67·0	—	—	—
July	69·5	6th	71·5	10th	67·8	—	—	—
August	69·0	15th	71·8	5th	63·2	—	—	—
September	69·5	—	72·0	30th	63·0	2·9	4·8	2·0
October	68·9	31st	71·8	3rd	61·0	2 6	6·3	1·3
November	69·3	16th	71·8	21st	66·0	2·6	4·1	1·7
December	67·5	1st	70·5	29th	64·0	3·6	5·3	1·3
3.—PUTTALAM (Observations cancelled)		—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4.—ANURÁDHAPURA.								
January	56·3	16th	64·8	6th	48·3	9·2	15·0	2·7
February	57·8	21st	65·0	7th	49·3	7 2	17·2	3·9
March ...(incorrect) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
April	69·3	22nd	71·6	2nd	66·1	3·1	6·6	1 3
May	68·9	18th	71·6	30th	65·3	3·9	7·0	2·4
June ... July ... (incomplete)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
August	70·1	27th	72·5	12th	68·7	3·5	5 0	0·8
September	70·6	12th	72·6	—	68·9	3·7	4 9	1·8
October	67·9	20th	70·2	—	65·0	3·9	8 4	1·4
November	65·4	1st	69·2	30th	60·1	5·1	11·5	5·1
December	64·0	27th	68·1	24th	58·2	7·0	14·4	4·6
Year	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
Means of extremes ...	—	—	?	—	?	—	?	?
5.—MANNAR.								
January	59·0	14th	65·0	27th	50·0	14·2	20·3	10·0
February	56·9	9th	65·0	—	48·0	14·5	22 4	10·0
March ...(Instrument broken)		—	—	—	—	—	—	—

TABLE IV. *(continued)*.—Nocturnal Radiation.

Month.	Mean.	Maximum.		Minimum.		Difference, Shade and Radiation.		
		Day.	°	Day.	°	Mean.	Max.	Min.
6.—JAFFNA.								
January	67·0	17th	73·3	6th	63·0	3·2	5·0	2·2
February	66·1	10th	72·3	5th	60·0	3·9	5·0	2·0
March	71·5	29th	79·0	5th	63·7	3·6	6·6	2·0
April	76·0	22nd	80·7	3rd	70·7	2·5	4·0	1·4
May	78·9	12th	80·8	5th	71·7	1·4	4·4	0·7
June	76·9	1st	79·0	11th	74·2	1·8	2·8	0·2
July	77·4	—	79·0	8th	74·5	1·3	3·3	0
August	76·5	—	78·2	30th	71·3	1·5	6·7	0·5
September	76·6	11th	79·0	7th	74·0	1·6	3·0	0·7
October	73·8	10th	78·0	—	71·0	1·7	3·2	1·0
November	71·4	3rd	77·0	30th	66·0	2·5	4·0	1·0
December	70·7	13th	74·0	3rd	67·0	2·4	5·8	0·4
Year	73·6	May 12th	80·8	February 5th	60·0	2·3	6·7	0
Means of extremes ...	—	—	77·5	—	68·9	—	4·5	1·0
7.—TRINCOMALEE.								
January	69·2	18th	72·1	28th	62·4	5·5	8·5	2·9
February	68·3	20th	73·0	1st	60·0	6·1	9·0	3·3
March	66·2	20th	71·9	1st	58·9	6·1	9·9	3·8
April	71·0	24th	74·3	2nd	68·3	4·8	6·4	3·4
May	73·1	13th	75·7	—	69·8	4·9	6·8	3·3
June	72·1	14th	74·9	28th	68·5	4·7	5·8	3·6
July	71·6	26th	74·0	31st	68·9	5·2	6·9	3·1
August	70·1	—	73·0	4th	67·5	5·3	8·1	2·3
September	69·7	11th	72·9	30th	65·9	5·9	7·2	5·1
October	68·5	—	70·0	12th	66·9	5·8	7·7	3·9
November	67·9	23rd	70·2	18th	63·8	6·4	9·7	3·5
December	67·8	—	70·0	4th	63·9	5·5	8·1	1·8
Year	69·6	May 13th	75·7	March 1st	58·9	5·5	9·9	1·8
Means of extremes ...	—	—	72·7	—	65·4	—	7·8	3·3
8.—BATTICALOA.								
January	67·7	18th	72·0	30th	62·6	3·8	5·5	2·4
February	67·5	24th	71·4	3rd	61·3	3·7	7·0	1·8
March	67·0	23rd	72·6	6th	60·0	4·1	7·0	2·2
April	71·0	—	73·4	2nd	67·5	3·5	4·8	2·2
May	71·0	17th	74·4	28th	66·8	5·4	9·2	2·7
June	70·2	—	72·0	28th	68·0	5·6	7·9	3·8
July	70·2	—	72·0	5th	66·8	4·9	8·0	2·4
August	70·1	—	72·0	5th	66·4	4·5	7·0	3·4
September	70·9	5th	73·8	22nd	66·8	4·3	6·4	2·2
October	70·7	13th	72·6	3rd	68·2	3·0	6·0	1·4
November	70·2	—	72·0	—	68·4	2·8	5·0	1·7
December	69·9	15th	71·8	4th	66·7	2·7	3·6	1·8
Year	69·7	May 17th	74·4	March 6th	60·0	4·0	9·2	1·4
Means of extremes ..	—	—	72·5	—	65·8	—	6·4	2·3
9.—HAMBANTOTA (Observations	cancelled)		—	—	—	—	—	—
10.—GALLE.								
January	69·1	23rd	72·8	30th	64·6	5·1	7·4	2·7
February	67·9	4th	73·0	24th	62·3	6·1	9·3	3·9
March	70·3	28th	78·2	7th	62·0	5·0	8·0	3·9
April	72·5	23rd	77·0	24th	68·5	5·1	6·9	3·8
May	73·0	7th	76·9	23rd	68·7	6·3	8·0	4·4
June	73·0	9th	75·1	15th	69·0	3·9	5·2	1·8
July	73·7	20th	77·0	1st	70·0	4·1	6·4	2·6
August	73·5	17th	76·0	7th	69·3	4·3	5·7	3·0
September ...	73·3	3rd	75·3	30th	70·0	4·4	5·3	3·3
October	70·6	5th	73·7	2nd	68·8	4·8	5·9	1·1
November	70·3	10th	73·4	—	68·0	5·6	7·9	3·9
December	70·8	1st	73·0	29th	69·4	3·9	5·4	2·9
Year .	71·5	March 28th	78·2	March 7th	62·0	4·9	9·3	1·1
Means of extremes ..	—	—	75·1	—	67·5	—	6·8	3·1
11.—KANDY.								
January	60·1	17th	66·6	30th	48·6	4·0	6·6	2·2
February	57·7	21st	65·2	28th	46·2	6·0	10·2	2·8
March	57·6	20th	64·0	7th	48·6	5·1	8·4	2·6
April	63·9	6th	68·0	—	60·0	3·7	6·9	1·2
May	64·7	31st	68·5	2nd	60·0	4·4	9·0	1·6
June	65·2	13th	67·2	—	63·6	4·0	5·7	1·8
July	64·4	3rd	69·0	18th	59·4	4·4	6·8	0·5
August	64·3	—	67·0	23rd	60·5	4·0	5·2	2·4
September	63·4	11th	68·5	30th	56·0	3·8	7·5	1·7
October	63·1	8th	67·0	2nd	52·0	4·0	10·5	1·8
November	63·2	29th	66·4	22nd	58·2	3·4	8·2	1·1
December	64·7	27th	67·5	4th	61·5	2·7	4·5	1·4
Year	62·7	July 3rd	69·0	February 28th	46·2	4·1	10·5	0·5
Means of extremes ...	—	—	67·1	—	56·2	—	7·5	1·9

TABLE IV. *(continued)*.—Nocturnal Radiation.

Month.	Mean.	Maximum.		Minimum.		Difference, Shade and Radiation.		
		Day.	°	Day.	°	Mean.	Max.	Min.
12.—NUWARA ELIYA.								
January	40·0	17th	48·8	11th	30·6	6·8	12·7	4·2
February	37·7	20th	50·2	27th	27·5	7·4	14·6	3·8
March	34·9	21st	45·5	1st	26·4	8·1	10·5	5·2
April	43·3	29th	51·0	1st	32·0	6·2	8·3	3·2
May	45·1	21st	51·4	14th	38·0	6·6	9·5	3·6
June	48·2	29th	50·0	23rd	46·0	4·3	6·8	3·0
July	45·7	26th	49·5	17th	39·8	5·4	10·2	2·0
August	44·9	21st	50·0	5th	39·0	6·2	11·0	3·2
September	45·1	—	50·0	—	39·0	5·6	12·4	2·5
October	44·0	31st	51·0	4th	35·0	5·9	10·0	3·0
November	42·0	7th	49·0	22nd	35·0	6·2	7·7	1·3
December	45·5	23rd	49·5	6th	35·5	5·5	10·0	3·3
Year	43·0	May 21st	51·4	March 1st	26·4	6·0	14·6	1·3
Means of extremes ...	—	—	49·7	—	35·3	—	10·3	3·2
13.—HAKGALA.								
January	47·8	—	55·0	11th	37·0	5·8	8·0	3·0
February ...	47·4	—	56·0	6th	39·0	5·5	11·0	3·0
March	44·4	21st	54·0	13th	37·0	7·0	11·0	4·0
April ...	52·4	—	56·0	1st	43·0	3·6	9·0	1·0
May	53·9	—	56·0	—	51·0	2·7	5·0	2·0
June	54·7	—	56·0	—	54·0	1·7	5·0	1·0
July	52·8	15th	56·0	—	50·0	2·9	4·5	0·5
August ..	52·1	—	54·0	—	50·0	3·9	6·0	1·0
September	50·8	—	54·9	22nd	44·0	5·0	10·0	2·0
October . ..	53·4	31st	57·0	—	48·0	1·5	4·0	0
November	52·7	—	56·0	22nd	46·0	1·4	3·0	0·5
December	54·3	25th	57·0	6th	48·0	1·1	2·0	0
Year .	51·4	—	57·0	—	37·0	3·5	11·0	0
Means of extremes ...	—	—	55·6	—	45·6	—	6·5	1·5
14.—BADULLA.								
January	52·9	17th	62·0	27th	46·0	6·1	11·0	2·0
February	51·9	9th	62·5	2nd	42·5	8·3	19·0	2·5
March	52·7	25th	63·0	10th	41·5	6·7	13·0	2·0
April	54·7	11th	62·0	7th	50·0	10·6	18·0	3·0
May ...	55·4	3rd	60·0	—	52·0	10·7	15·0	5·0
June	56·5	4th	64·0	—	54·0	7·5	10·0	3·0
July (incomplete) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
August	55·4	18th	58·0	—	54·0	5·2	8·0	3·5
September	58·1	-	61·0	26th	49·0	4·7	17·0	2·0
October ...	57·3	25th	64·5	30th	45·5	6·0	20·0	1·0
November	52·2	—	61·0	12th	34·0	11·9	32·5	3·0
December	57·5	24th	63·0	—	50·0	5·5	13·0	1·0
Year	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
Means of extremes	—	—	?	—	?	—	?	?
15.—VAVUNIYA-VILÁNKULAM.								
January	48·9	17th	56·4	27th	41·0	8·5	8·9	5·9
February	46·5	9th	58·0	6th	39·4	9·0	10·0	6·8
March	50·0	- -	59·0	6th	37·4	8·8	11·0	6·9
April	56·7	6th	62·0	—	52·0	7·7	10·9	6·3
May	60·7	19th	63·0	15th	56·0	6·9	8·7	5·3
June	59·9	—	62·0	2nd	57·0	6·7	7·9	3·9
July	60·9	5th	64·0	—	59·0	6·1	7·9	3·6
August ...	59·4	—	62·0	—	58·0	6·6	7·9	3·9
September	59·5	12th	64·0	—	56·4	6·4	7·4	2·1
October	57·7	9th	60·0	26th	55·0	6·3	8·7	4·3
November	54·8	10th	58·4	30th	51·4	8·4	13·7	5·1
December	54·9	6th	58·0	4th	49·0	8·0	9·9	5·9
Year	55·8	—	64·0	March 6th	37·4	7·5	13·7	2·1
Means of extremes ...	—	—	60·6	—	51·0	—	9·4	5·0
16.—KURUNÉGALA.								
January	60·1	21st	68·5	—	51·5	8·8	11·0	4·8
February	57·9	20th	69·0	1st	44·5	9·4	17·0	2·7
March	60·2	20th	67·0	4th	54·0	9·6	12·4	4·5
April	66·0	—	70·0	—	61·0	6·6	10·3	0·3
May	67·7	31st	72·0	1st	63·5	7·5	10·3	2·3
June ..	69·0	1st	72·0	5th	63·0	5·2	9·8	1·8
July	68·6	1st	72·0	18th	65·0	6·0	7·8	0·8
August	68·0	—	71·0	26th	64·5	6·0	7·3	3·3
September	66·8	—	73·0	30th	59·0	?	?	?
October	67·1	—	71·0	2nd	57·0	4·5	10·3	2·0
November	67·2	—	70·5	22nd	60·0	4·7	8·3	1·8
December	67·4	13th	70·0	2nd	64·0	3·9	7·3	1·3
Year	65·5	—	73·0	Feb. 1st	44·5	?	?	?
Means of extremes ...	—	—	70·5	—	58·9	—	?	?

TABLE IX.—Mean and Extreme Air Temperature in the Shade, for 1887.

Month.	Mean.	9½ A.M.	3½ P.M.	Mean of Max.	Mean Daily Range.	Mean of Min.	Highest Maximum. Day.	Highest Maximum. °	Absolute Range.	Lowest Minimum. Day.	Lowest Minimum. °
1.—COLOMBO.											
January ...	79·7	82·0	85·2	88·0	16·2	71·8	14th	90·7	23·4	30th	67·3
February ...	79·9	82·4	86·0	88·5	17·2	71·3	19th	94·2	27·4	1st	66·8
March ...	81·0	84·1	86·0	88 2	15·2	73·0	30th	91·2	22·6	7th	68·6
April .	81·0	83·2	84·8	87·5	12·5	75·0	2nd	91·7	22·9	28th	68·8
May ...	81·8	83·8	84·0	86 6	9·1	77·5	10th	89·0	15·7	24th	73·3
June ...	79·4	81·6	81·6	84·2	9·1	75·1	14th	85·9	13·1	1st	72·8
July ..	80·1	81·9	82·6	84·6	8·8	75·8	30th	85·9	12·1	15th	73·8
August ...	80·0	82·0	82·5	85 2	9·7	75·5	—	87·0	15·2	7th	71·8
September ...	80·4	82·6	82 8	85·2	9·5	75·7	—	87·0	14·2	1st	72·8
October ...	78·7	81 3	81·3	84·8	11·4	73·4	3rd	87·7	16·9	2nd	70·8
November ...	80·1	83·0	83·8	86·2	12·7	73·5	21st	88·7	17·4	22nd	71·3
December ...	78·2	80·9	81·5	85·2	12·9	72·3	2nd	89·8	19·0	—	70·8
Year ...	80·0	82·4	83·5	86·2	12·0	74·2	Feb. 19th	94·2	27·4	Feb. 1st	66·8
Means of extremes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	89·1	18·4	—	70·7
2.—RATNAPURA.											
January ...	76·5	77·2	85·5	89·8	23·0	66·8	22nd	94·1	33·8	12th	60·3
February ...	77·2	79·9	87·4	91·9	27·5	64·4	9th	97·0	37·7	1st	59·3
March ...	78·7	83 3	88·1	94·1	29·5	64·6	—	97·3	42·0	7th	55·3
April ...	77·8	82·2	83·4	90·1	22·4	67·7	14th	94·4	32·1	26th	62·3
May ...	78 2	82·0	84·0	87·4	18·9	68·5	1st	91·3	28 8	14th	62·5
June ...	78·5	79·6	88·1	83·6	?	?	15th	88·1	?	?	?
July ...	?	80·9	82·2	85·7	?	?	12th	88·1	?	?	?
August ...	?	81·2	82·6	85·1	?	?	5th	89·3	?	?	?
September ...	79·7	82·2	84·5	86·4	14 0	72·4	—	91·1	24·8	30th	66·3
October ...	77·9	80·5	81·6	85·3	13·8	71·5	2nd	91·1	23·8	3rd	67·3
November ...	78·3	80·9	82·1	87·3	15·4	71·9	6th	90·1	21·0	21st	69·1
December ...	76·1	77 6	79·7	83·2	12·1	71·1	—	89 1	20 2	12th	68·9
Year .	?	80·6	84·1	87·5	?	?	—	97·3	?	?	?
Means of extremes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	91·7	—	—	?
3.—PUTTALAM.											
January ...	75·2	78·4	80·9	83·3	17·0	66·3	22nd	88·2	26·4	31st	61·8
February ...	75·4	78·4	82·2	87·3	21·6	65·7	23rd	91·9	33 2	6th	58·7
March ..	77·8	81·0	82·9	87 4	18·0	69·4	—	90·0	26·2	11th	63·8
April ...	79·0	81·9	83·0	87·7	15·6	72 1	4th	90·2	21·4	29th	68 8
May ...	80·0	81·8	82·2	85·4	9·3	76·1	5th	89·0	18·2	16th	70·8
June ...	78·0	79·8	79·8	84·0	9·6	74·4	22nd	87·7	17·9	1st	69 8
July ...	77·5	79·4	79·5	85·8	12·0	73·8	8th	88·7	17·9	9th	70·8
August ...	78·1	79 8	79·9	85·7	11·1	74·6	5th	90·0	18·5	27th	71·5
September ...	77·3	79·7	79·6	86 1	13·4	72 7	19th	90·0	21·2	29th	68 8
October ...	75·3	78·1	77·5	85·3	15·0	70·3	26th	89·5	22·2	—	67 3
November ...	75·4	79·1	78·3	86·8	17·8	69·0	21st	92·0	27·2	14th	64·8
December ...	72·8	79·7	74·9	83·8	15·8	68·0	9th	88·0	22·7	1st	65·3
Year ...	76·8	79·4	80·1	85·7	14·7	71·0	Nov. 21st	92·0	33·3	Feb. 6th	58 7
Means of extremes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	89·6	22·8	—	66 8
4.—ANURÁDHAPURA											
January ...	76·1	79·9	82·9	87·4	21·9	65·5	—	92·0	31·9	31st	60·1
February ...	76·9	81 3	84·4	89·5	24·5	65·0	27th	94·8	38·6	6th	56·2
March ...	81·1	84·4	91·8	95·0	27·9	67·1	19th	98·6	38·4	—	60·2
April	81·8	84·9	88·1	93·5	21·1	72·4	1st	97·0	28·4	—	68·6
May ...	82·3	85·7	88·4	93·1	20·3	72·8	5th	94·8	23·5	26th	71·3
June } (incom-	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
July } plete)											
August ...	83·6	85·8	91·5	96·0	22·4	73·6	3rd	98·3	27·1	4th	71·2
September ...	84·0	87·0	90·7	96·7	22·4	74·3	31st	103·0	31·7	20th	71·3
October ...	79·3	82·7	83·4	90 2	18·4	71·8	1st	100·4	31·0	15th	69·4
November ..	77·6	81·3	81·0	88·8	18·3	70·5	21st	91·9	24·7	—	67·2
December ...	76·2	77·8	79·8	84·6	13·6	71·0	6th	90·3	24·3	4th	66·0
Year ...	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
Means of extremes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	?	?	—	?
5.—MANNÁR.											
January ...	78·3	79·7	81·9	84·3	11·1	73·2	—	86·0	17·0	—	69 0
February ...	78·6	81·0	83·5	86·8	15·4	71·4	27th	91 5	26·5	1st	65·0
March ...	81·9	85 3	88·2	91·6	19·3	72·3	17th	94 5	26·0	5th	68·5
April ...	83·2	86·6	86·9	91·4	15·2	76·2	14th	94·0	21 5	29th	72·5
May ...	84·6	86 4	87 2	90·4	10·2	80·2	10th	92·5	17·0	5th	75·5
June ..	82·5	84·2	84·7	88·4	9·7	78·7	21st	91·5	15·5	2nd	76·0
July ..	82·4	84·2	85·2	89·1	11 1	78·0	—	92 0	16·0	—	76·0
August ...	82·6	84·9	85·4	89·5	11 9	77·6	—	92 0	16·5	—	75·5
September ...	82 7	85·0	85 7	89·6	12·3	77·3	6th	91 8	17·3	—	74·5
October ..	79 4	81·9	81·2	86·3	11·2	75·1	4th	90·5	20·5	6th	70·0
November ...	79·7	82·0	82·4	86·1	11·4	74·7	10th	88·6	16·6	—	72·0
December ...	77·2	78·4	78·8	81·6	7·3	74·3	7th	88·0	16 0	21st	72·0
Year ...	81·1	83·3	84·3	87·9	12·2	75·7	Mar. 17th	94·5	29·5	Feb. 1st	65·0
Means of extremes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	91·1	18·9	—	72·2

TABLE IX. (*continued*).—Air Temperature.

Month.	Mean.	9½ A.M	3½ P.M.	Mean of Max.	Mean Daily Range.	Mean of Min.	Highest Maximum. Dry.	Highest Maximum. °	Absolute Range.	Lowest Minimum. Dry.	Lowest Minimum. °
6.—JAFFNA.											
January ...	77·7	81·2	81·8	85·6	15·4	70 2	22nd	88·4	22·4	30th	66·0
February ...	78·9	82·8	83·9	87·2	17 2	70·0	24th	90·4	26·4	7th	64·0
March ...	82·6	84·8	87·9	90 6	15·5	75·1	17th	93·6	25·6	5th	68·0
April ...	84·7	86·9	88·6	91·8	13·3	78·5	7th	95·3	21·3	3rd	74·0
May ...	83·7	85·3	85·4	88·4	8·1	80 3	5th	95·2	21·2	5th	74·0
June ...	81·8	83·4	83·3	86 5	7·8	78·7	26th	89·4	16·1	2nd	73·3
July ...	82·2	84·1	84·0	87·2	8·5	78·7	1st	92·8	15·8	—	77·0
August ...	81·9	83 2	84·6	87·2	9·2	78·0	3rd	95·0	22·0	10th	73·0
September ...	82·5	84·2	85 0	85·0	6·8	78 2	5th	88·8	12·6	—	76·2
October ...	79·6	81 4	81·9	?	?	75 5	?	?	?	19th	72·4
November ...	78·9	81·9	80·9	82·8	8 9	73·9	20th	86·5	16·5	30th	70·0
December ...	76·4	78·4	77·7	79·7	6·6	73·1	7th	84 0	12·8	17th	71·2
Year ...	80·9	83·1	83·7	?	?	75·8	?	?	?	Feb. 7th	64·0
Means of extremes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	?	?	—	71·6
7.—TRINCOMALEE.											
January ...	77·4	78·4	79·0	83·8	9·1	74·7	22nd	90·1	21 0	28th	69·1
February ...	78·3	79 6	80·8	85·5	11·1	74·4	17th	90·8	24·3	1st	66·5
March ...	80·1	82·9	85·2	92·5	20·2	72·3	28th	98·8	31·7	6th	67·1
April ...	82·2	84·7	86·1	93·8	18·0	75·8	23rd	99·4	26 0	29th	73·4
May ...	85·0	87·0	89·9	97·5	19·5	78·0	17th	101·8	27·0	31st	74·8
June ...	84·0	85·4	89·9	96·4	19 6	76·8	21st	99 1	26·9	28th	72·2
July ...	83·2	84·5	88·4	96·3	19·5	76·8	22nd	100·3	28·3	31st	72·0
August ...	82·5	85·4	86·6	96 6	21·2	75·4	21st	101·2	29 2	—	72·0
September ...	82·2	84·8	86 3	95·8	20 2	75·6	29th	101·0	27 9	—	73·1
October ...	79·5	81·6	82·7	90·4	16·1	74·3	2nd	101 4	29 4	20th	72·0
November ...	78·6	80·1	81·5	87·0	12·7	74·3	3rd	93·3	21 0	19th	72·3
December	76·3	77 8	77·9	84 0	10·7	73·3	7th	89·2	18·1	5th	71·1
Year ...	80·8	82 7	84·5	91·6	16·5	75·1	May 17th	101·8	35 3	Feb. 1st	66·5
Means of extremes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	97·2	25 9	—	71·3
8.—BATTICALOA.											
January ...	75·8	77 2	78·6	82·3	10·8	71·5	24th	84·0	16·4	30th	67·6
February .	76·4	78·2	79·7	83·6	12·4	71·2	27th	86 2	20·0	3rd	66·2
March ...	78·5	82 3	82·2	87·8	16·7	71·1	—	91·0	27·2	6th	63·8
April ...	80·9	84 3	83·8	90 7	16·2	74·5	22nd	93·6	21·6	2nd	72·0
May ...	83·4	87·5	86·5	94 1	17·7	76·4	21st	99·0	24·6	31st	74·4
June ...	82·6	86 0	86 1	93·5	17·7	75·8	—	96·0	23·0	28th	73·0
July ...	82·7	86·2	86·7	94 0	18·9	75·1	—	98·0	24·8	11th	73·2
August ...	81·0	84·3	84·0	90·5	15·9	74·6	1st	95·0	24·8	5th	70·2
September ...	82 2	86 3	85·2	93·6	18·4	75·2	16th	98·0	26·6	22nd	71·4
October ...	79·4	82·7	81·7	89·5	15·8	73·7	4th	97·0	25·2	26th	71·8
November ...	78·5	81·1	81·4	86·6	13 6	73·0	3rd	89·5	17·9	18th	71·6
December ...	76·0	77·5	77·9	82·8	10·2	72·6	11th	85·1	15·1	4th	70·0
Year ...	79 8	82·8	82·8	89·1	15 4	73·6	May 21st	99 0	35·2	March 6th	63·8
Means of extremes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	92·7	22·3	—	70·4
9.—HAMBANTOTA.											
January ...	78·0	80 8	81 7	?	?	71·5	?	?	?	11th	67·1
February ...	79 1	82·1	83 8	?	?	71·3	?	?	?	6th	61·1
March ...	79·9	83·6	84·6	?	?	71·7	?	?	?	7th	65·1
April ...	81·3	83·8	84·9	?	?	75 1	?	?	?	1st	69·1
May ...	79 9	82 1	82·5	85·2	10·1	75 1	—	88·1	16·0	—	72·1
June ...	79·5	81·9	82 0	85·2	10·5	74·7	—	87 1	14·0	—	73·1
July ...	79·6	81·6	82·6	85·8	11·2	74·6	—	90·1	17·0	26th	73·1
August	79·5	81 9	82·1	85 6	11·0	74·6	26th	90 1	18·0	—	72·1
September ...	80 6	83 5	84·0	87·2	12·8	74·4	16th	95 1	25·0	20th	70·1
October ...	78·8	81 1	81 8	85·4	12·0	73·4	6th	91·1	20·0	—	71·1
November ...	79·1	81·7	82·8	84·2	12·4	72·8	21st	88 1	17·0	—	71·1
December ...	77·4	79·6	80·1	82·8	10 2	72·6	3rd	86·1	15·0	—	71·1
Year ...	79·4	82·0	82·7	?	?	73 5	?	?	?	Feb. 6th	61·1
Means of extremes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	?	?	—	69·7
10.—GALLE.											
January ...	77·7	78·7	80·3	81 5	7·3	74·2	10th	84·2	13·2	11th	71·0
February ...	78 1	79·1	81·3	82 6	8·6	74·0	10th	85·1	14·2	18th	70·9
March ...	79·9	81·1	83·3	84·8	9·5	75·3	30th	87·2	17·2	7th	70·0
April ...	80·7	81·4	83·0	85·1	7·5	77·6	—	87·0	13·3	24th	73·7
May ..	81 2	81.7	82 6	84·1	4·8	79·3	10th	86·6	10·6	25th	76·0
June ...	79·0	80·0	80 2	81 9	5·0	76·9	—	83·2	9·8	15th	73·4
July ...	79·7	80 1	81·2	82·2	4·4	77·8	17th	84·0	9·0	1st	75·0
August ...	79·7	80 3	81 1	82·5	4 7	77·8	—	84·2	10·2	7th	74·0
September ...	80·1	81·2	81·5	83·1	5·4	77·7	—	84·2	9·3	30th	74·9
October ...	77·9	78·5	79·7	81·1	5·7	75·4	1st	84·0	10·0	—	74·0
November ...	78·9	79·6	81·1	82·3	6·4	75 9	21st	84·0	10·2	27th	73·8
December ...	77·5	75 1	79·6	81·3	6·6	74·7	12th	84·6	11·7	16th	72·9
Year ...	79·2	79 9	81 2	82 7	6·3	76·4	—	87·2	17·2	March 7th	70·0
Means of extremes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	84·9	11·6	—	73·3

TABLE IX. *(continued)*.—Air Temperature.

Month.	Mean.	9½ A.M.	3½ P.M.	Mean of Max.	Mean Daily Range.	Mean of Min.	Highest Maximum. Day.	Highest Maximum. °	Absolute Range.	Lowest Minimum. Day.	Lowest Minimum. °
11.—KANDY.											
January ...	72·5	74·5	78·9	84·6	20·5	64·1	22nd	89·6	37·0	30th	52·6
February ...	73·3	76·0	80·3	86·7	23·0	63·7	9th	90 2	38·0	28th	52·2
March ...	76·0	79·4	85·8	90·1	27·4	62·7	30th	92·4	37·4	7th	55·0
April ...	76·3	81·2	80·2	89·3	21·7	67·6	—	91·6	27·6	2nd	64·0
May ...	77·2	80·6	82·1	87·4	18·3	69·1	16th	90·6	26·6	9th	64·0
June ...	74·9	77·4	78·0	83·5	14·3	69·2	8th	86·5	19·5	26th	67·0
July ...	75·0	77·8	80·3	83 6	14·8	68·8	18th	88·2	23·4	18th	64·8
August ...	75·1	78·1	78·9	85 8	17·5	68·3	17th	90 8	26·0	23rd	64·8
September ...	74·9	78·4	79·2	85·7	18·5	67·2	28th	91·1	31·0	30th	60·0
October ...	73·4	77·0	76·3	87·0	19·9	67·1	5th	94·0	36·0	2nd	58·0
November ...	74·2	78·6	77·3	85·7	19·1	66·6	10th	88·0	25·0	22nd	63·0
December ...	72·7	74·8	75·8	82·3	14·9	67·4	7th	89·4	24·9	1st	64·5
Year ...	74·6	77·8	79·4	86·0	19·2	66·8	October 5th	94·0	41·8	Feb. 28th	52·2
Means of extremes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	90·2	29·4	—	60·8
12.—NUWARA ELIYA.											
January	55·7	60·3	59·9	67·1	20·3	46·8	9th	71·3	33·0	26th	38·3
February ...	56·2	62·1	61·3	68·6	23·5	45·1	6th	74·0	38·5	27th	35·5
March ...	57·9	66·6	64·1	71·9	28·9	43·0	14th	76·2	42·5	3rd	33·7
April ..	58·3	64·2	61·1	70·7	21·2	49·5	2nd	75·8	35·8	1st	40·0
May ...	58·5	63 3	60·5	69·6	17·9	51·7	17th	74·8	28·8	14th	46·0
June ...	55·0	56·7	56·0	62·6	10·1	52·5	22nd	67·7	16·7	12th	51·0
July ...	55·5	57·7	57·6	65·1	12·0	51·1	18th	70·0	28·0	17th	42·0
August ...	56·4	59·6	58·4	65·8	14·7	51·1	24th	71·0	25·3	5th	45·7
September ...	56·4	60·0	58·7	65·3	14·6	50·7	22nd	74·0	30·5	22nd	43·5
October ...	56·3	60·2	58·7	66·8	16·9	49·9	2nd	73·4	29·4	4th	44·0
November ...	56 0	61·4	58·4	66·9	18·7	48·2	9th	69·7	27·2	—	42·5
December ...	55·8	58·9	57·6	64·2	13·2	51·0	3rd	68·8	27·3	6th	41·5
Year ...	56·5	60·9	59·4	67·0	17·7	49·2	March 14th	76·2	42·5	March 3rd	33·7
Means of extremes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	72·2	30·2	—	42·0
13.—HAKGALA.											
January ...	60·0	62·7	63·6	63·8	10·2	53·6	28th	70·0	25·0	—	45·0
February ...	61·1	64·8	65·6	?	?	52·9	?	?	?	6th	45·0
March ...	64·4	70·9	70·8	72·9	21·5	51·4	—	77·5	31·5	—	46·0
April ...	63·4	68·4	65·8	71·7	15·7	56·0	1st	76·0	26·0	24th	50·0
May ...	63·0	67·4	65·0	71·1	14·5	56·6	17th	77·0	24·0	23rd	53·0
June ...	59·9	62·0	61·2	66·2	9·8	56·4	—	70·0	15·0	30th	55·0
July ...	60·5	62·9	62·8	66·4	10·7	55·7	18th	72·0	18·5	18th	53·5
August ...	61·3	65·1	62·8	69·3	13·3	56·0	—	74·0	21·0	26th	53·0
September ...	61·4	64·8	63·7	68·5	12·7	55·8	22nd	76·5	25·5	22nd	51·0
October	60·6	64·0	62·9	67·8	12·9	54·9	3rd	76·0	25·0	—	51·0
November ...	59·8	63·2	62·0	66·0	11·9	54·1	4th	70·0	22·0	—	48·0
December	58·4	60·1	59·8	62·2	6·8	55 4	7th	67·0	16·0	3rd	51·0
Year ...	61·2	64·7	63·8	?	?	54·9	?	?	?	—	45·0
Means of extremes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	?	?	—	50·1
14.—BADULLA.											
January ...	68·0	71·5	73·6	?	?	59·0	?	?	?	27th	51·0
February ...	70·2	73·7	76·7	?	?	60·2	?	?	?	1st	48·5
March ...	71·2	75·2	79·1	?	?	59·4	?	?	?	9th	50·0
April ...	75·7	79·7	82·1	?	?	65 3	?	?	?	4th	61·5
May ...	78·7	82·8	87 3	?	?	66·1	?	?	?	27th	62·0
June	77·2	81·5	86·1	?	?	64·0	?	?	?	14th	62·0
July (incomplete)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
August ...	76·7	81·3	88·2	?	?	60·6	?	?	?	10th	59·0
September ..	76·7	80·5	86·9	?	?	62·8	?	?	?	17th	60·5
October ...	73·8	77·7	80·4	?	?	63·3	?	?	?	8th	57·7
November ...	72·7	75·4	78·7	?	?	64·1	?	?	?	4th	59·0
December ...	69·9	72·3	74·4	?	?	63·0	?	?	?	22nd	60·0
Year ...	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
Means of extremes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	?	?	—	?
15.—V.-VILANKULAM.											
January ..	72·8	79·8	81·1	85·1	27·7	57·4	22nd	92·0	42·1	—	49·9
February ...	73 4	80·6	84·0	87·5	32·0	55·5	27th	95·0	47·0	6th	48·0
March ...	78·4	84 6	91·7	95·4	36·6	58·8	—	98·0	49·6	6th	48·4
April ...	78·3	84·2	86·3	92·8	28·4	64·4	1st	97·8	37·5	2nd	60 3
May ...	81·2	85·3	90·8	93·8	26·2	67·6	16th	98·0	34·1	15th	63·9
June ..	80·4	85·2	89·3	93·8	27·2	66 6	21st	99 0	36 4	2nd	62·6
July ...	81·2	86·7	90·0	94·4	27·4	67·0	18th	99·0	33·7	—	65·3
August .	80·6	86·8	89·2	94·8	28·8	66·0	25th	99·5	35·2	6th	64·3
September ...	82·2	88·2	91·6	95 7	29·8	65·9	29th	101·4	38·0	21st	63·4
October ...	76·8	82·4	84·1	89·7	25·7	64·0	1st	99·6	37·7	—	61·9
November ...	75·4	81·1	82·0	86·2	23·0	63·2	20th	90·4	31·1	—	59·3
December .	72·9	77·6	78·3	82·0	19·1	62·9	59	87·4	29·5	4th	57 9
Year ...	77·8	83·5	86·5	90·9	27·6	63·3	Sept. 29th	101·4	53·4	Feb. 6th	48·0
Means of extremes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	96·4	37·6	—	58·8

TABLE IX. *(continued)*.—Air Temperature.

Month.	Mean.	9½ A.M.	3½ P.M.	Mean of Max.	Mean Daily Range.	Mean of Min.	Highest Maximum. Day.	Highest Maximum. °	Absolute Range.	Lowest Minimum. Day.	Lowest Minimum. °
16.—KURUNEGALA.											
January ...	77·6	80·6	83·4	?	?	68·9	?	?	?	30th	61·5
February ...	77·9	80·8	85·7	?	?	67·3	?	?	?	1st	57·2
March ...	81·5	84·1	90·7	?	?	69·8	?	?	?	6th	63·2
April ...	81·0	83·6	86·8	?	?	72·6	?	?	?	—	66·3
May ...	81·6	84·1	85·4	89·7	14·5	75·2	—	92·5	20·4	14th	72·1
June ...	79·2	81·1	82·3	86·7	12·5	74·2	17th	91·0	19·2	30th	71·8
July ...	79·9	81·2	84·0	86·9	12·3	74·6	18th	90·0	18·2	8th	71·8
August ...	79·6	81·5	83·3	87·6	13·6	74·0	2nd	91·5	19·7	4th	71·8
September ...	?	?	?	87·7	?	?	30th	93·5	?	?	?
October ...	77·6	80·1	81·0	87·9	16·3	71·6	4th	92·8	27·5	2nd	65·3
November ...	78·4	80·8	82·6	88·5	16·6	71·9	—	91·0	22·7	22nd	68·3
December ...	76·0	77·4	79·2	84·1	12·8	71·3	7th	98·5	21·7	31st	67·8

TABLE XI.—Sea Level Equivalents of Monthly Mean Temperature, for 1887.

Station.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year.
Colombo ...	79·8	80·0	81·1	81·1	81·9	79·5	80·2	80·1	80·5	78·8	80·2	78·3	80·1
Ratnapura ...	76·7	77·4	78·9	78·0	78·4	78·7	?	?	79·9	78·1	78·5	76·3	?
Puttalam .	75·2	75·4	77·8	79·0	80·0	78·0	77·5	78·1	77·3	75·3	75·4	72·8	76·8
Anurádhapura ...	76·8	78·6	81·8	82·5	83·0	?	?	84·3	84·7	80·0	78·3	76·9	?
Mannár ...	78·3	78·6	81·9	83·2	84·6	82·5	82·4	82·6	82·7	79·4	79·7	77·2	81·1
Jaffna ...	77·7	78·9	82·6	84·7	83·7	81·8	82·2	81·9	82·5	79·6	78·9	76·4	80·9
Trincomalee ...	77·8	78·7	80·5	82·6	85·4	84·4	83·6	82·9	82·6	79·9	79·0	76·7	81·2
Batticaloa ...	75·9	76·5	78·6	81·0	83·5	82·7	82·8	81·1	82·3	79·5	78·6	76·1	79·9
Hambantota ...	78·1	79·2	80·0	81·4	80·0	79·6	79·7	79·6	80·7	78·9	79·2	77·5	79·5
Galle ..	77·8	78·2	80·0	80·8	81·3	79·1	79·8	79·8	80·2	78·0	79·0	77·6	79·3
V.-Vilaṇkulam ..	73·5	74·1	79·1	79·0	81·9	81·1	81·9	81·3	82·9	77·5	76·1	73·6	78·5

TABLE XIII.—Monthly Means and Extremes of Pressure, for 1887.

Month.	Mean.	9½ A.M.	3½ P.M.	Range.	Highest reading.	Date.	Lowest reading.	Date.	Absolute Range.
1.—COLOMBO.	29+	29+	29+	—	29+	—	29+	—	—
January ...	·828	·894	·762	·132	·970	11th	·686	18th	·284
February ...	·880	·948	·813	·135	1·052	—	·715	1st	·337
March ...	·843	·907	·780	·127	977	3rd	·713	21st	·264
April ...	·809	·872	·747	·125	·925	6th	·680	22nd	·245
May ...	·824	·872	·777	·095	·949	5th	·739	26th	·210
June	·817	·861	·774	·087	·924	16th	·722	27th	·202
July ...	·843	·885	·802	·083	·934	15th	·730	1st	·204
August ...	·817	·864	·770	·094	·945	7th	·718	18th	·227
September ...	·856	·911	·802	·109	·986	29th	·763	—	·223
October ...	·849	·907	·792	·115	1·000	16th	·726	30th	·274
November ...	·863	·921	·805	·116	·981	20th	·741	9th	·240
December ...	·837	·900	·775	·125	·998	31st	·705	21st	·293
Year .	·839	·895	·783	·112	1·052	—	·680	April 22nd	·372
Means of extremes	—	—	—	—	·970	—	·720	—	·250
2.—RATNAPURA.	29+	29+	29+	—	29+	—	29+	—	—
January ...	·759	·828	·690	·138	·899	13th	·615	—	·284
February ...	·789	·853	·726	·127	·930	12th	·606	5th	·324
March ...	·766	·842	·691	·151	·925	3rd	·581	21st	·344
April ...	·742	·810	·674	·136	·864	—	·636	—	·228
May ...	·754	·809	·700	·109	·879	5th	599	20th	·280
June ...	·743	·782	·705	·077	·861	15th	·660	22nd	·201
July ...	·762	·812	·713	·099	·854	11th	·651	2nd	·203
August ...	·753	·804	·703	·101	·894	29th	·582	3rd	·312
September ...	·783	·839	·728	·111	·929	29th	·685	5th	·244
October ...	·780	·839	·721	·118	·916	17th	·658	26th	·258
November ...	·794	·855	·734	·121	·906	16th	·673	14th	·233
December ...	·769	824	·715	·109	·930	31st	·630	20th	·300
Year ...	·766	·825	·708	·117	·930	—	·584	March 21st	·348
Means of extremes	—	—	—	—	·899	—	·631	—	·268

TABLE XIII. *(continued)*.—Air Pressure.

Month	Mean.	9½ A.M.	3½ P.M.	Range.	Highest reading.	Date.	Lowest reading.	Date.	Absolute Range.
3.—PUTTALAM.	29+	29+	29+	—	29+	—	29+	—	—
January ...	·853	·920	·787	·133	1·017	11th	·730	19th	·287
February ...	·901	·976	·827	·149	1·100	15th	·694	1st	·406
March ...	·842	·906	·778	·128	·973	9th	·669	20th	·304
April ...	·794	·859	·730	·129	·920	—	·652	22nd	·268
May ...	·795	·848	·743	·105	·909	5th	·681	28th	·228
June ...	·788	·835	·741	·094	·910	16th	·687	30th	·223
July ...	808	·852	·764	·088	·919	12th	·684	20th	·235
August ...	·760	·828	·692	·136	1·057	25th	644	—	·413
September ...	·822	·873	·772	·101	·963	29th	·739	21st	·224
October ...	·837	·896	·778	·118	1·005	16th	·702	26th	·303
November ...	·854	·909	·799	·110	·975	20th	·733	3rd	242
December ...	·853	·907	·799	·108	1·016	30th	·721	21st	·295
Year ...	·825	·884	·767	·117	1·100	February 15th	·644	—	·456
Means of extremes	—	—	—	—	·980	—	·695	—	·285
4.—ANURÁDHAPURA.	29+	29+	29+	—	29+	—	29+	—	—
January ...	618	·664	·573	·091	·742	11th	·525	26th	·217
February ...	·640	·708	·573	·135	·840	15th	·465	1st	·375
March ...	·589	·673	·506	·167	·743	13th	·436	22nd	·307
April ...	·542	·594	·490	·104	·658	3rd	·427	—	·231
May ...	·528	·569	·488	·081	·653	6th	·428	6th	·225
June } (incomplete)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
July } (incomplete)									
August ...	·503	·566	·440	·126	·636	20th	·392	4th	·244
September ...	·520	·588	·452	·136	·691	28th	·376	26th	·315
October ...	·551	·603	·499	·104	·663	15th	·415	30th	·248
November ...	·585	·632	·539	·093	·714	20th	·455	—	·259
December ...	·623	·647	·543	·104	·758	30th	·415	21st	·343
Year ...	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
Means of extremes	—	—	—	—	?	—	?	—	?
5.—MANNÁR.	29+	29+	29+	—	29+	—	29+	—	—
January ...	·868	·925	·812	·113	1·001	12th	·747	20th	·254
February ...	·908	·969	·848	·121	1·086	15th	·714	10th	·372
March ...	·839	·900	·779	·121	·966	3rd	·665	22nd	·301
April ...	·798	·861	·736	·125	·939	6th	·657	27th	·282
May ...	·754	·804	·704	·100	·862	6th	·655	12th	·207
June ...	·757	·810	·705	·105	·871	16th	·655	17th	·216
July ...	·762	·814	·710	·104	·869	12th	·645	3rd	·224
August ...	·755	·809	·702	·107	·868	8th	·647	19th	221
September ...	·788	·844	·733	·111	·917	30th	·659	12th	·258
October ...	·826	·882	·771	·111	·934	27th	·687	6th	·247
November ...	·869	·925	·813	·112	·981	30th	·700	1st	·281
December ...	·862	·916	·808	·108	·961	9th	·716	12th	·245
Year ...	·815	·871	·760	·111	1·086	February 15th	·645	—	·441
Means of extremes	—	—	—	—	·938	—	·679	—	·259
6.—JAFFNA.	29+	29+	29+	—	29+	—	29+	—	—
January ...	·900	·959	·841	·118	1·027	11th	·764	22nd	·263
February ...	·944	1·007	·881	·126	1·157	15th	·755	1st	·402
March ...	·864	·934	·794	·140	1·012	3rd	726	30th	·286
April ...	·819	·882	·756	·126	·948	6th	·666	22nd	·282
May ...	·775	·827	·724	·103	·900	5th	·680	—	·220
June ...	·764	·815	·714	·101	·897	16th	661	7th	·236
July ...	·788	·840	·737	103	·914	9th	·670	25th	·244
August ...	·781	·835	·727	·108	·895	7th	·665	21st	·230
September ...	·812	·875	·750	·125	·967	29th	·638	11th	·329
October ...	·844	·905	·784	·121	1 016	16th	·696	9th	·320
November ...	·897	·953	·842	·111	1·012	27th	·731	1st	·281
December ...	·893	·950	·837	·113	1·068	31st	·747	20th	·321
Year ...	·840	·898	·782	·116	1·157	February 15th	·638	September 11th	·519
Means of extremes	—	—	—	—	·984	—	·700	—	·284
7.—TRINCOMALEE.	29+	29+	29+	—	29+	—	29+	—	—
January ...	·823	·879	·767	·112	·934	11th	·704	22nd	·230
February ...	·869	·927	812	·115	1·062	15th	·690	1st	·372
March ...	·799	·864	·734	·130	·946	3rd	·639	28th	·307
April ...	·750	·813	·687	·126	·893	6th	·604	22nd	·289
May ...	·692	·747	·637	·110	·840	5th	·571	13th	·269
June ...	·688	·740	·636	·104	·816	16th	·589	7th	·227
July ...	·710	·763	·658	·105	·837	9th	·584	1st	·253
August ...	·699	·754	·644	·110	·824	7th	·571	18th	·253
September ...	·728	·790	·667	·123	·878	30th	·578	11th	·300
October ...	·767	·826	·708	·118	·946	16th	·633	9th	·313
November ...	·815	·875	·755	·120	·935	26th	·655	1st	·280
December ...	·808	·864	·752	·112	·984	31st	·655	20th	·329
Year ...	·762	·820	·705	·115	1·062	February 15th	·571	—	·491
Means of extremes	—	—	—	—	·908	—	·623	—	·285

TABLE XIII. *(continued)*.—Air Pressure.

Month.	Mean.	9½ A.M.	3½ P.M.	Range	Highest reading	Date.	Lowest reading	Date.	Absolute Range.
8.—BATTICALOA.	29+	29+	29+	—	29+	—	29+	—	—
January ...	·863	·906	820	·086	·978	11th	·751	22nd	·227
February ...	·904	·948	·860	·088	1·060	15th	·741	1st	·319
March ...	·853	·901	·805	·096	·963	3rd	·735	30th	·228
April ...	·811	·856	·767	·089	·909	26th	·698	29th	·211
May ...	·771	·816	·727	·089	·883	8th	·677	26th	·206
June ...	·771	·813	·729	·084	·877	16th	·689	7th	·188
July ...	·782	·825	·740	·085	·885	9th	·675	2nd	·210
August ...	·782	·827	·738	·089	·902	8th	·683	19th	·219
September ...	·798	·845	·752	·093	·913	29th	·684	10th	·229
October ...	·826	·872	·781	·091	·965	16th	·711	31st	·254
November ...	·876	·922	·830	·092	·970	26th	·744	1st	·226
December ...	·858	·902	·815	·087	1·020	31st	·727	21st	·293
Year ...	·825	·869	·780	089	1·060	February 15th	·675	July 2nd	·385
Means of extremes	—	—	—	—	·944	—	·710	—	·234
9.—HAMBANTOTA.	29+	29+	29+	—	29+	—	29+	—	—
January ...	·802	·861	·744	·117	·919	11th	·685	19th	·234
February ...	·818	·883	·753	·130	·947	15th	·691	26th	·256
March ...	·839	·900	·778	·122	·939	16th	·704	30th	·235
April ...	·859	·916	·802	·114	·945	14th	·757	3rd	·188
May ...	·850	·908	793	·115	·950	28th	·742	17th	·208
June ...	—	—	—	—	—	Barometer out of	order.	—	—
July ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
August ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
September ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
October ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
November ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
December ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Year ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Means of extremes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10.—GALLE.	29+	29+	29+	—	29+	—	29+	—	—
January ...	·816	·873	·760	·113	·928	11th	·702	17th	·226
February ...	·875	·934	·816	·118	1·040	—	·735	1st	·305
March ...	·838	·896	·780	·116	·970	3rd	·727	21st	243
April ...	·805	·863	·747	·116	·935	26th	·675	22nd	·260
May ...	·817	·865	·769	·096	·921	5th	·694	23rd	·227
June ...	·805	·847	·763	·084	·919	15th	·704	7th	·215
July ...	·832	·875	·790	·085	·929	14th	·738	6th	·191
August ...	·810	·856	·765	·091	·940	7th	·720	—	·220
September ...	·840	·891	·789	·102	·975	29th	·748	5th	·227
October ...	·843	·898	·788	·110	·984	16th	·730	28th	·254
November ...	·855	·909	·802	·107	·957	12th	·748	1st	·209
December ...	818	·872	·768	·104	·978	30th	·675	24th	·303
Year ...	·830	·882	·778	·104	1·040	—	·675	December 24th	·365
Means of extremes	—	—	—	—	·956	—	·716	—	·240
11.—KANDY.	28+	28+	28+	—	28+	—	27+	—	—
January ...	·175	·230	·121	·109	·297	11th	1·065	19th	·232
February ...	·216	·273	·160	·113	·382	15th	1·052	1st	·330
March ...	·173	·233	·113	·120	·300	3rd	1·054	21st	·246
April ...	·143	·200	·086	·114	·243	11th	1·024	9th	·219
May ...	·159	·206	·112	·094	·269	5th	1·069	17th	·200
June ...	·145	·187	·104	·083	·243	16th	1·059	28th	·184
July (incorrect) ...	·162	·206	·119	·087	·270	9th	1·061	1st	·209
August ...	·145	·192	·099	·093	·252	7th	1·048	20th	·204
September ...	·181	·230	·133	·097	·311	28th	1·073	12th	·238
October ...	·186	·244	·128	·116	·309	16th	1·075	30th	·234
November ...	·202	·259	·146	·113	·303	12th	1·078	6th	·225
December ...	·174	·229	·119	·110	·344	31st	1·017	20th	·327
Year ...	·172	·224	·120	·104	·382	February 15th	1·017	December 20th	·365
Means of extremes	—	—	—	—	·293	—	1·056	—	·237
12.—NUWARA ELIYA.	23+	23+	23+	—	23+	—	23+	—	—
January ...	·992	1·024	·960	·064	1·083	11th	·890	20th	·193
February ...	1·022	1·057	·988	·069	1·156	16th	·894	1st	·262
March ...	1·008	1·041	·975	·066	1·090	6th	·944	22nd	·146
April ...	1 000	1·036	·964	·072	1·092	26th	·916	22nd	·176
May ...	·999	1·034	·965	·069	1 090	8th	·924	26th	·166
June ...	·977	1·009	·945	·064	1·072	15th	·880	10th	·192
July ...	·982	1·015	·950	·065	1 098	11th	·868	—	·230
August ...	·967	1·005	·930	·075	1·044	12th	·856	28th	·188
September ...	·974	1·018	·931	·087	1·080	18th	·875	—	·205
October ...	·970	1·019	·921	·098	1·128	16th	·850	—	·278
November ...	·980	1·019	·942	·077	1·100	20th	·867	1st	·233
December ...	—	—	—	—	—	Barometer out of	order.	—	—
Year ...	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
Means of extremes	—	—	—	—	?	—	?	—	?

TABLE XIII. *(continued)*.—Air Pressure.

Month.	Mean.	9½ A.M.	3½ P.M.	Range.	Highest reading.	Date.	Lowest reading.	Date.	Absolute Range.
13.—HAKGALA.	24 +	24 +	24 +	—	24 +	—	24 +	—	—
January ...	·512	·550	·474	·076	·606	11th	·429	—	·177
February ...	·551	·591	·511	·080	·695	15th	·421	—	·274
March ...	·527	·564	·490	·074	·621	3rd	·408	21st	·213
April ...	·508	·547	·470	·077	·600	26th	·399	28th	·201
May ...	·499	·534	·465	·069	·598	5th	·419	22nd	·179
June ...	·467	·500	·435	·065	·556	—	·371	30th	·185
July ...	·479	·509	·449	·060	·570	8th	·356	1st	·214
August ...	·475	·508	·442	·066	·563	—	397	19th	·166
September ...	·494	·533	·456	·077	·615	29th	·362	10th	·253
October ...	·512	·553	·471	082	·638	16th	·385	31st	·253
November ...	·533	·574	·492	·082	·627	20th	·421	1st	·206
December ...	·514	·554	·474	·080	·633	31st	·385	25th	·248
Year ...	·506	·543	·469	·074	·695	February 15th	·356	July 8th	·339
Means of extremes	—	—	—	—	·610	—	·396	—	·214
14.—BADULLA.	27 +	27 +	27 +	—	27 +	—	27 +	—	—
January ...	·707	·764	·651	·113	·828	24th	·595	3rd	·233
February ...	·720	·779	·662	·117	·863	16th	·587	2nd	·276
March ...	·685	·747	·624	·123	·831	2nd	·575	30th	·256
April ...	·642	·703	·581	·122	·736	10th	·489	19th	·247
May ...	·576	·633	·519	·114	·709	1st	·465	2nd	·244
June ...	·599	·659	·540	·119	·732	10th	·495	—	·237
July (incomplete) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
August ...	·606	·665	548	·117	·711	7th	·480	5th	·231
September ...	·611	·663	·559	·104	·753	2nd	·475	8th	·278
October ...	·645	·700	·590	·110	·799	14th	·477	8th	·322
November ...	·686	·743	·630	·113	·805	14th	·565	7th	·240
December ...	·699	·749	·649	·100	·808	5th	·530	2nd	·278
Year ...	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
Means of extremes	—	—	—	—	?	—	?	—	?
15.—V.-VILÁNKULAM.	29 +	29 +	29 +	—	29 +	—	29 +	—	—
January ...	·612	·667	·558	·109	·759	11th	·502	29th	·257
February ...	·649	·714	·585	·129	·837	15th	·436	28th	·401
March ...	·558	·629	·488	·141	·704	2nd	·427	28th	·277
April ...	·522	·590	·454	·136	·696	3rd	·353	22nd	·343
May ...	·499	·556	·443	·113	·635	10th	·358	22nd	·277
June ...	·486	·535	·437	·098	·614	10th	·370	8th	·244
July ...	·502	·554	·451	·103	·611	11th	·379	1st	·232
August ..	·493	·543	·444	·099	·600	7th	·376	21st	·224
September ...	·515	·576	·454	·122	·691	28th	·374	12th	·317
October ...	·544	·600	·488	·112	·718	16th	·409	9th	·309
November ...	·588	·645	·531	·114	·758	21st	·443	1st	·315
December ...	·581	·636	·527	·109	·756	31st	·442	21st	·314
Year ..	·546	·604	·488	·116	·837	February 15th	·353	April 28th	·484
Means of extremes	—	—	—	—	·698	—	·406	—	·292

TABLE XV.—Monthly Means of Pressure in 1887, reduced to their Sea-level Values.

Stations.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year.
	29 +	29 +	29 +	29 +	29 +	29 +	29 +	29 +	29 +	29 +	29 +	29 +	29 +
Colombo	·868	·920	·883	·849	·864	·857	·883	·857	·896	·889	·903	·877	·879
Ratnapura... ...	·871	·897	·877	·849	·865	·855	·874	·865	·895	·892	·906	·881	·877
Puttalam ...	·864	·912	·853	·805	·806	·799	·819	·771	·833	·848	·865	·864	·837
Anurádhapura ..	·939	·959	·894	·849	·834	?	?	·808	·825	·860	·896	·934	?
Mannár	·880	·920	·851	·810	·766	·769	·774	·767	·800	·838	·881	·874	·827
Jaffna ...	·909	·953	·873	·828	·784	·773	·797	·790	·821	·853	·906	·902	·849
Trincomalee ...	·898	·944	·874	·826	·768	·764	·785	·774	·803	·844	·892	·885	·838
Batticaloa	·889	·930	·879	·837	·797	·797	·808	·808	·824	·852	·902	·884	·851
Hambantota ...	·852	·868	·889	·909	·900	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
Galle	·864	·923	·886	·853	·865	·853	·880	·858	·888	·891	·903	·866	·877
Kandy	·873	·912	·850	·825	·840	·808	·851	·835	·875	·885	·898	·877	·861
Nuwara Eliya ...	·875	·891	·825	·852	·860	·910	·896	·858	·863	·857	·862	?	?
Hakgala	·801	·824	·730	·749	·681	·765	·765	·743	·767	·798	·833	·842	·885
Badulla	·933	·934	·888	·825	·735	·766	?	·769	·779	·837	·890	·921	?
V.-Viláṇkulam ..	·933	·968	·873	·84	·815	·804	·817	·808	·830	·863	·909	·902	·863

TABLE XVI.—Direction and Mean Movement of Wind for 1887.

	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	Sept.	October.	Nov.	Dec.
1.—Colombo.												
N.	1,599	1,536	70	23	—	—	—	—	—	40	129	3,342
N.N.E. ...	2,519	1,239	45	3	—	—	30	—	—	121	303	1,565
N.E	311	414	36	45	—	—	—	—	—	12	82	114
E.N.E	261	262	179	251	—	—	—	—	—	200	240	483
E.	74	38	—	78	—	—	—	—	—	16	15	50
E.S.E.	126	178	435	453	—	34	—	—	—	30	247	205
S.E.	32	130	643	374	58	54	—	15	—	4	—	5
S.S.E.	72	46	375	319	100	190	2	93	81	595	711	146
S.	—	20	104	34	—	17	—	181	—	13	20	—
S.S.W.... ...	166	304	352	634	1,294	876	1,790	1,827	413	1,226	473	114
S.W.	11	150	509	705	4,661	2,385	2,010	2,939	293	929	482	—
W.S.W. ...	71	144	1,587	1,657	2,966	4,081	3,803	2,675	6,616	2,672	1,051	55
W.	21	271	413	354	8	186	161	138	474	86	100	—
W.N.W. ...	235	297	276	246	11	175	234	179	292	294	380	143
N.W.	101	71	72	15	—	16	41	—	—	40	74	10
N.N.W. ...	2,047	1,239	153	38	17	—	—	—	—	193	650	1,006
Calm	—	63	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Variable ...	—	—	39	237	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Resultant { Miles ...	6,100	3,730	2,415	1,373	8,660	7,300	7,425	7,435	7,810	4,585	1,470	5,775
Resultant { Direction	N 5° E	N 1½° W	S 39° W	S 36½° W	S 49½° W	S 55° W	S 50¾° W	S 47½° W	S 67½° W	S 52° W	S 66° W	N 8½° E
Mean Diurnal Velocity	245	228	170	182 8	294·1	267·2	260·3	260·2	272·6	208·2	165·8	234·2
Average Resultant { Miles ...	6,329	2,894	931	1,629	6,310	6,314	6,846	6,939	7,150	4,083	1,464	5,178
Average Resultant { Direction	N 10° E	N 2½° W	S 50½° W	S 22° W	S 39° W	S 50½° W	S 48½° W	S 49° W	S 53° W	S 58° W	N 40° W	N 4° W
Average Diurnal Velocity	202	148	121	134	194	241	216	206	207	174	137	192
2.—Ratnapura.												
N.	2	3	3	8	9	3	4	6	2	—	7	—
N.E.	4	9	6	6	4	4	2	3	1	13	4	3
E.	1	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
S.E.	28	13	11	10	—	1	—	1	—	4	11	19
S.	1	4	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—
S.W.	13	17	15	4	2	—	1	—	1	11	9	17
W.	1	4	3	5	3	3	7	1	1	—	1	—
N.W.	12	6	17	26	44	9	48	51	55	31	25	22
Claim	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Variable ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Resultant { Percentage	28	22	19	42	85	87	89	89	96	44	60	22
Resultant { Direction	S 16° E	S 22½° W	S 81° W	N 33° W	S 38° W	N 40½° W	N 47° W	N 38° W	N 41° W	N 40° W	N 49½° W	S 55½° W
Mean Diurnal Velocity	17·3	25·5	29·1	28·4	31·1	26·5	46·7	31·3	42·4	26·5	18·5	14 2
Average Resultant { Percentage	6	11	14	21	47	73	70	78	73	44	29	13
Average Resultant { Direction	S 13° E	S 69° E	S 24° E	N 59½° W	N 40° W	N 39° W	N 36° W	N 32½° W	N 37½° W	N 28° W	N 52° W	N 80° W
Average Diurnal Velocity	18	24	26	26	26	31	38	32	34	26	20	28
3.—Puttalam.												
N.	8	9	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	10
N.E.	34	17	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	13	30
E.	7	9	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	9
S.E.	1	1	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
S.	—	—	2	7	3	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
S.W.	—	7	42	35	59	60	62	62	59	45	18	1
W.	2	2	10	11	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	1
N.W.	10	11	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	9	16	11
Calm	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Variable ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Resultant { Percentage	72	43	77	76	98	100	100	100	100	71	22	70
Resultant { Direction	N 31° E	N 16½° E	S 55½° W	S 46½° W	S 43½° W	S 45° W	S 45° W	S 45° W	S 45° W	S 61° W	N 49° W	N 28° E
Mean Diurnal Velocity	87·4	95·1	96·0	97·3	246·4	287·3	261·3	228·5	223·0	137·2	79·6	66·0
Average Resultant { Percentage	72	56	13	71	95	96	95	93	92	79	10	63
Average Resultant { Direction	N 35° E	N 33½° E	S 65° W	S 45° W	S 44° W	S 47° W	S 45½° W	S 46° W	S 45° W	S 51° W	N 11½° W	N 39½° E
Average Diurnal Velocity	135	140	134	136	263	352	337	299	293	209	114	107

TABLE XVI. *(continued)*.—Movement of Wind.

	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	Sept.	October.	Nov.	Dec.
4.—ANURÁDHAPURA.												
N.	13	17	4	6	—	—	—	—	—	2	13	19
N.E.	37	27	18	4	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	8
E.	1	4	6	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4
S.E.	2	—	7	8	6	—	—	5	6	2	—	6
S.	1	2	9	18	17	—	—	20	16	3	10	—
S.W.	2	—	7	12	36	(Incomplete)		28	30	19	2	—
W.	—	—	2	6	1	—	—	7	6	10	1	—
N.W.	3	4	8	3	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Calm	3	2	1	1	2	—	—	2	2	19	32	25
Variable ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Resultant { Percentage	72	75	18	36	84	?	?	79	79	46	4	40
Resultant { Direction	N 34° E	N 29° E	N 71½° E	S 17° W	S 26½° W	?	?	S 28° W	S 29° W	S 59½° W	N 18° W	N 34° E
Mean Diurnal Velocity	40·8	44·4	33·4	41·5	126·9	?	?	93·8	90·8	40·5	23·4	32·8
Average Resultant { Percentage	89	40	54	10	59	84	88	86	84	41	25	65
Average Resultant { Direction	N 20° E	N 25° E	N 35° E	N 44½° E	S 32° W	S 30½° W	S 33° W	S 30° W	S 30° W	N 35° E	N 28° W	N 21° E
Average Diurnal Velocity ...	32	34	24	38	72	98	121	103	100	51	40	26
5.—MANNÁR.												
N.	—	3	2	5	—	—	—	—	—	9	3	25
N.E.	59	30	3	9	1	—	—	—	—	4	33	25
E.	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	6
S.E.	—	3	7	10	1	—	—	—	—	3	5	1
S.	1	2	15	2	—	—	—	—	—	9	1	—
S.W.	—	—	16	32	60	60	62	62	60	29	10	—
W.	—	3	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
N.W.	2	14	14	2	—	—	—	—	—	7	6	5
Calm	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Variable ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Resultant { Percentage	93	55	42	36	95	100	100	100	100	41	87	81
Resultant { Direction	N 46° E	N 25½° E	S 47½° W	S 29½° W	S 44½° W	S 45° W	S 45° W	S 45° W	S 45° W	S 56° W	N 42½° E	N 24½° E
Mean Diurnal Velocity	194·1	194·1	133·3	123·5	213·1	182·3	?	229 9	195·6	139·3	122 6	166·6
Average Resultant { Percentage	86	74	13	41	92	88	93	91	93	58	47	76
Average Resultant { Direction	N 35° E	N 31° E	N 14° E	S 28½° W	S 32½° W	S 38½° W	S 37½° W	S 37½° W	S 39° W	S 41° W	N 31½° E	N 26½° E
Average Diurnal Velocity	216	199	143	154	205	239	235	230	233	180	156	204
6.—JAFFNA.												
N.	1	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	5	4
N.E.	23	18	1	6	—	—	—	—	—	7	19	26
E.	2	5	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	6
S.E.	2	5	19	16	—	—	—	—	—	1	7	1
S.	2	3	10	8	8	9	28	23	14	7	3	—
S.W.	—	2	13	16	52	50	32	32	39	24	8	1
W.	2	1	3	3	1	—	—	5	3	5	2	—
N.W.	2	2	4	3	1	—	—	1	4	9	11	8
Calm	28	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	16
Variable ...	—	20	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	3	—
Resultant { Percentage	36	33	43	39	95	94	89	85	86	37	23	52
Resultant { Direction	N 47° E	N 70½° E	S 2° W	S 12° W	S 41° W	S 40° W	S 25½° W	S 32° W	S 41½° W	S 64° W	N 21° E	N 34½° E
Mean Diurnal Velocity	61·3	69·2	197·2	185·0	447·6	406·1	378·1	366·7	323·6	199 3	84·1	85·8
Average Resultant { Percentage	80	70	42	48	84	94	93	92	93	54	33	65
Average Resultant { Direction	N 40° E	N 53½° E	S 70° E	S ½° W	S 34½° W	S 38½° W	S 37° W	S 35½° W	S 38° W	S 40° W	N 26° E	N 35° E
Average Diurnal Velocity	79	77	105	158	387	329	305	296	288	178	75	144
7.—TRINCOMALEE.												
N.	13	8	1	3	1	—	2	2	4	7	17	13
N.E.	40	30	5	3	1	2	4	1	3	9	15	20
E.	3	5	11	12	—	—	1	2	1	3	4	10
S.E.	—	6	32	21	9	1	1	8	10	3	5	10
S.	2	1	3	1	—	1	—	1	1	1	1	—
S.W.	2	—	7	13	47	45	35	36	32	23	7	1
W.	—	2	1	5	4	10	16	9	7	12	6	2
N.W.	—	—	1	2	—	1	2	3	2	2	1	5
Calm	2	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	—
Variable ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Resultant { Percentage	77	66	63	37	78	85	68	63	52	31	33	55
Resultant { Direction	N 38° E	N 49° E	S 50° E	S 36° E	S 39° W	S 52½° W	S 63½° W	S 46½° W	S 42½° W	S 76½° W	N 19° E	N 47½° E
Mean Diurnal Velocity	275·6	257·4	155·1	149·4	213·6	202·4	191 1	174·3	181·1	149·2	174·3	265·7
Average Resultant { Percentage	83	72	66	58	58	85	79	64	63	26	33	60
Average Resultant { Direction	N 43° E	N 59° E	S 79° E	S 57° E	S 32½° W	S 52½° W	S 52° W	S 50° W	S 50½° W	S 54½° W	N 28½° E	N 32° E
Average Diurnal Velocity	263	218	189	194	313	453	432	367	348	237	164	224

TABLE XVI. *(continued)*.—Movement of Wind.

	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	Sept.	October.	Nov.	Dec.
8.—BATTICALOA.												
N.	17	22	10	7	2	5	7	7	3	12	22	17
N.E.	10	8	2	3	5	5	—	3	2	2	8	11
E.	8	11	18	18	18	10	9	16	7	10	6	8
S.E.	1	2	11	9	11	10	11	11	11	4	3	6
S.	2	—	10	12	10	7	7	14	14	11	3	2
S.W.	1	—	—	—	1	1	5	—	3	1	—	—
W.	8	5	—	2	3	12	12	—	8	2	—	—
N.W.	14	3	2	1	3	5	5	2	5	2	5	10
Calm	1	5	9	8	9	5	6	9	7	18	13	8
Variable ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Resultant { Percentage	50	54	42	43	42	8	13	43	53	16	44	47
Resultant { Direction	N 5° W	N 21° E	S 78½° E	S 70° E	S 64½° E	S 57½° E	S 20° W	S 65½° E	S 9½° E	E	N 31½° E	N 26½° E
Mean Diurnal Velocity	251·5	231·6	272·7	245·9	247·0	272·6	264·7	269·1	247·4	113·6	107·1	142·7
Average Resultant { Percentage	72	64	60	55	42	17	9	29	29	29	38	59
Average Resultant { Direction	N 23° E	N 35° E	N 68° E	N 82° E	S 86° E	S 44° E	S 41½° E	S 72° E	S 67° E	N 80° E	N 32° E	N 23° E
Average Diurnal Velocity	220	190	150	152	142	136	142	138	125	130	146	179
9.—HAMBANTOTA.												
N.	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
N.E.	33	20	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	41
E.	12	8	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5
S.E.	6	11	21	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	11	7
S.	5	4	11	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	6
S.W.	4	8	25	48	56	56	54	57	47	49	35	1
W.	—	1	1	3	6	4	4	5	10	7	3	—
N.W.	—	—	—	1	—	—	4	—	3	1	—	—
Calm	2	3	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2
Variable ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Resultant { Percentage	62	42	68	91	97	88	93	90	92	89	63	68
Resultant { Direction	N 73° E	S 84° E	S 3° W	S 43° W	S 49° W	S 48½° W	S 50° W	S 48½° W	S 56° W	S 47½° W	S 36° W	N 66° E
Mean Diurnal Velocity	160·0	162·9	128·4	189·7	189·4	209·0	239·5	234·7	264·3	210·0	128·3	126·0
Average Resultant { Percentage	85	77	52	46	89	95	94	95	96	83	21	55
Average Resultant { Direction	N 56½° E	N 67° E	N 89½° E	S 30° W	S 45½° W	S 49° W	S 50° W	S 49° W	S 48½° W	S 48° W	S 9° W	N 61° E
Average Diurnal Velocity	222	222	173	185	265	262	277	281	276	223	141	169
10.—GALLE.												
N.	6	1	4	—	1	—	1	—	—	2	1	8
N.E.	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
E.	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
S.E.	2	3	9	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
S	1	3	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1
S.W.	7	10	10	5	3	2	3	1	—	1	2	1
W.	10	6	3	9	21	17	11	27	15	14	16	—
N.W.	14	9	20	35	37	41	46	33	44	35	29	5
Calm	21	23	10	6	—	—	1	1	1	9	21	35
Variable ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Resultant { Percentage	40	30	27	66	89	91	90	90	92	75	55	20
Resultant { Direction	N 67° W	S 73½° W	W	N 61½° W	N 62½° W	N 59° W	N 55° W	N 65½° W	N 55½° W	S 57½° W	N 68° W	N 26° E
Mean Diurnal Velocity	75·6	86	102·2	148·3	247·8	260·9	206·2	222·5	299·4	189·7	123·8	72·0
Average Resultant { Percentage	24	7	10	28	64	82	84	84	76	63	34	24
Average Resultant { Direction	N 45° W	N 64° W	S 28½° E	S 89½° W	N 84½° W	N 59½° W	N 58½° W	N 59½° W	N 55° W	N 58° W	N 52½° W	N 26° W
Average Diurnal Velocity	63	58	72	94	187	232	203	207	196	179	92	73
11.—KANDY.												
N.	—	—	4	1	—	1	1	1	2	2	1	1
N.E.	3	1	4	1	—	2	—	2	—	1	8	4
E.	16	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	2	5	9
S.E.	32	50	26	20	8	5	14	7	6	15	13	29
S.	1	—	1	1	3	—	—	—	3	2	1	—
S.W.	4	2	7	14	13	1	9	12	16	6	4	—
W.	—	—	3	5	10	11	5	13	15	11	8	1
N.W.	4	2	13	11	24	36	32	26	17	17	16	11
Calm	2	—	3	5	2	3	—	—	—	6	4	7
Variable ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Resultant { Percentage	66	87	16	28	46	65	40	41	56	23	9	40
Resultant { Direction	S 58° E	S 44½° E	S 32° E	S 21° W	S 89° W	N 52½° W	N 72° W	N 88½° W	S 82½° W	S 82½° W	N 27° E	S 68½° E
Mean Diurnal Velocity	33·1	40·8	18·9	18·2	43·1	40·4	41·4	38·3	38·4	20·9	16·2	32·3
Average Resultant { Percentage	50	56	42	35	68	74	78	74	71	76	24	38
Average Resultant { Direction	S 70° E	S 63° E	S 51° E	S 34° W	S 57½° W	S 70° W	S 67° W	S 59° W	S 68° W	S 61° W	S 34° W	S 61° E
Average Diurnal Velocity	77	79	45	34	54	71	71	59	55	39	33	50

TABLE XVI. *(continued)*.—Movement of Wind.

	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	Sept.	October.	Nov.	Dec.
12.—NUWARA ELIYA.												
N.	1	1	1	1	3	—	1	2	2	1	3	1
N.E.	8	9	12	6	2	—	—	—	2	1	2	5
E.	6	9	7	1	—	—	—	—	—	4	3	3
S.E.	37	21	25	16	6	—	—	1	1	15	21	43
S.	4	3	5	7	2	—	—	—	—	3	1	1
S.W.	3	2	6	14	22	10	2	14	20	16	18	4
W.	3	10	4	4	12	19	34	17	12	11	3	2
N.W.	—	1	2	11	15	31	25	28	23	11	9	3
Calm	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Variable ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Resultant { Percentage	67	37	46	27	57	84	89	77	68	34	30	66
Resultant { Direction	S 51° E	S 58° E	S 55½° E	S 20° W	S 79° W	N 72½°W	N 73° W	S 76½° W	N 83½° W	S 44° W	S 9½° W	S 47½° E
Mean Diurnal Velocity	54·7	84·4	71·0	39·8	54·2	118·3	127·6	64·4	110·5	43·4	33·3	70·1
Average Resultant { Percentage	23	55	27	14	28	77	76	63	65	36	9	38
Average Resultant { Direction	S 57° E	S 50° E	S 50° E	S 24½° E	N 89° W	N 66½°W	N 66° W	N 65½° W	N 65½° W	N 65½° W	S 50½° E	S 57½° E
Average Diurnal Velocity	77	80	68	60	84	156	139	108	108	80	69	71
13.—HAKGALA.												
N.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
N.E.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
E.	—	1	9	15	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—
S.E.	56	52	50	27	10	—	—	4	14	34	41	59
S.	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
S.W.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
W.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
N.W.	2	—	—	8	50	60	62	55	44	25	7	—
Calm	4	3	—	8	2	—	—	—	—	—	12	3
Variable ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Resultant { Percentage	87	94	94	53	64	100	100	81	50	15	57	95
Resultant { Direction	S 45° E	S 45° E	S 49° E	S 61½° E	N 45° W	S 45° W	N 45° W	N 44° W	N 44½° W	S 36½° E	S 44½° E	S 45° E
Mean Diurnal Velocity	99 4	106·6	128·0	117·4	269·9	400·7	404·4	279·0	318·9	162·2	104·2	83 6
Average Resultant { Percentage	89	92	92	81	17	60	89	81	66	25	29	58
Average Resultant { Direction	S 47° E	S 48° E	S 48° E	S 55° E	N 16½° W	N 98° W	N 55° W	N 58½° W	N 50½° W	N 34° W	S 61½° E	S 51° E
Average Diurnal Velocity	95	106	115	109	206	368	375	328	300	198	121	103
14.—BADULLA.												
N.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
N.E.	45	42	43	49	45	47	—	51	50	46	52	51
E.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
S.E.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
S.	—	—	—	—	—	—	(Incomplete)		—	—	—	—
S.W.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
W.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
N.W.	10	12	11	11	11	10	—	7	10	7	3	1
Calm	3	2	8	—	6	3	—	3	—	9	3	10
Variable ...	2 days not observed			—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Resultant { Percentage	79	77	71	83	75	80	?	82	85	75	89	82
Resultant { Direction	N 32° E	N 29° E	N 31° E	N 32½° E	N 31½° E	N 33½° E	?	N 37° E	N 33½° W	N 36½° E	N 40° E	N 44° E
Mean Dirunal Velocity	43·6	47·2	48·2	46·3	43·0	44·0	?	37·5	45·0	35·8	31·4	?
Average Resultant { Percentage	72	79	90	55	55	56	60	54	65	58	70	75
Average Resultant { Direction	N 31° E	N 32° E	N 30½° E	N 33½° E	N 28½° E	N 29° E	N 33° E	N 28½° E	N 34° E	N 35½° E	N 36° E	N 40° E
Average Diurnal Velocity	34	41	40	46	35	38	36	37	43	39	35	43
15.—V.-VILÁNKULAM.												
N.	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	9
N.E.	48	48	14	8	—	—	—	1	2	5	21	28
E.	7	3	3	3	—	—	—	—	1	3	3	8
S.E.	3	1	17	5	—	—	2	—	—	6	4	—
S.	—	—	4	7	—	—	—	4	1	1	3	—
S.W.	1	1	7	20	60	60	56	46	50	31	14	1
W.	—	—	—	5	1	—	2	6	6	7	5	1
N.W.	—	3	6	6	—	—	2	5	—	7	7	9
Calm	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
Variable ...	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Resultant { Percentage	87	87	27	30	98	100	93	85	86	46	12	66
Resultant { Direction	N 51° E	N 44° E	S 30½° E	S 39½° W	S 46° W	S 45° W	S 46½° W	S 52° W	S 50° W	S 54½° W	N 7° E	N 30° E
Mean Diurnal Velocity	56·1	52 4	49·9	47·4	156·3	156·3	163·5	140·9	130·3	74·0	64 6	56·0
Average Resultant { Percentage	83	84	36	6	80	91	91	71	80	40	60	74
Average Resultant { Direction	N 46° E	N 47° E	N 59° E	S 64° E	S 41½° W	S 43° W	S 47° W	S 56½° W	S 46° W	S 50° W	N 43½° E	N 40½° E
Average Diurnal Velocity	56	52	50	47	156	156	163	141	130	91	62	54

TABLE XVI. *(continued)*.—Movement of Wind.

	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	Sept.	October.	Nov.	Dec.
16.—KURUNÉGALA.												
N.	4	3	1	1	—	1	—	1	—	2	6	5
N.E.	3	21	6	—	—	—	—	1	2	7	19	23
E.	1	2	4	5	—	1	1	2	2	1	6	8
S.E.	—	2	5	—	5	1	2	4	6	8	2	8
S.	—	4	2	6	21	27	26	21	26	20	8	3
S.W.	—	—	3	8	25	16	17	20	13	15	7	7
W.	—	—	—	6	—	3	2	3	3	2	2	3
N.W.	1	3	5	1	1	1	—	—	2	6	10	5
Calm	—	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Variable ...	53	21	36	23	10	10	14	10	6	1	—	—
Resultant { Percentage	12	39	13	11	71	66	66	61	62	41	47	35
Resultant { Direction	N 20° E	N 48° E	N 69½° E	S 45½° W	S 20° W	S 20° W	S 16½° W	S 17½° W	S 9½° W	S 12½° W	N 28° E	N 58½° E
Mean Diurnal Velocity	60·4	38·7	23·9	27·9	56·3	56·0	50·5	41·1	43·5	24·0	20·8	31·8
Average Resultant { Percentage	44	51	22	13	62	57	70	70	45	57	53	33
Average Resultant { Direction	N 23° E	N 36° E	N 35° E	N 85½° W	S 8½° W	S 13½° W	S 5½° W	S 9½° W	S 13° W	S 9° W	N 3° E	N 34½° E
Average Diurnal Velocity ..	56	47	34	25	46	56	48	42	42	29	23	39

TABLE XVII.—Temperature of Evaporation in 1887.

Month.	Mean.	Min.	9½ A.M.	3½ P.M.	Range.	Difference, Dry and Wet-bulb. Mean.	Min.	9½ A.M.	3½ P.M.
1.—COLOMBO.									
January	72·1	67·8	73·7	74·7	6·9	7·6	4·0	8·3	10·5
February	71·8	67·4	73·4	74·7	7·3	8·1	3·9	9·0	11.3
March	74·1	69·9	75·9	76·5	6·6	6·9	3·1	8·2	9.5
April	75·8	72·3	77·5	77·7	5·4	5·2	2·7	5·7	7·1
May	76·0	73·6	77·2	77·1	3·5	5·8	3·9	6·6	6·9
June	73·5	71·4	74·6	74·4	3·0	5·9	3·7	7·0	7·2
July	73·7	71·9	74·5	74·7	2·8	6·4	3·9	7·4	7·9
August	73·7	71·8	74·7	74·7	2·9	6·3	3·7	7·3	7·8
September	74·0	72·4	74·9	74·7	2·3	6·4	3·3	7·7	8·1
October	74·5	71·8	76·1	75·5	3·7	4·2	1·6	5·2	5·8
November	75·2	72·2	76·9	76·5	4·3	4·9	1·3	6·1	7·3
December	74·1	71·2	75·3	75·8	4·6	4·1	1·1	5·5	5·7
Year	74·0	71·1	75·4	75·6	4·5	6·0	3·0	7·0	7·9
2.—RATNAPURA.									
January	71·7	65·9	73·6	75·6	9·7	4·8	0·9	3·6	9·9
February	70·8	63·2	73·9	75·4	12·2	6·4	1·2	6·0	12·0
March	71·8	63·5	75·6	76·2	12·7	6·9	1·1	7·7	11·9
April	73·8	66·3	77·5	77·6	11·3	4·0	1·4	4·7	5·8
May	74·0	67·5	77·3	77·1	9·6	4·2	1·0	4·7	6·9
June	74·7	71·6	76·1	76·5	4·9	?	?	3·5	11·6
July	74·7	71·3	76·2	76·0	4·7	?	?	3·7	6·2
August	74·5	71·2	76·3	75·9	4·7	?	?	4·9	6·7
September	74·2	71·1	76·1	75·4	4·3	5·5	1·3	6·1	9·1
October	73·9	70·1	75·8	75·8	5·7	4·0	1·4	4·7	5·8
November	73·6	70·8	73·6	76·4	5·6	4·7	1·1	7·3	5·7
December	73·6	69·8	74·7	76·2	6·4	2·5	1·3	2·9	3·5
Year	73·4	68·5	75·6	76·2	7·7	?	?	5·0	7·9
3.—PUTTALAM.									
January	70·7	64·5	73·6	73·9	9·4	4·5	1·8	4·8	7·0
February	70·6	63·7	73·6	74·6	10·9	4·8	2·0	4·8	7·6
March	73·9	67·4	77·0	77·4	10·0	3·8	2·0	4·0	5·5
April	76·0	69·6	79·1	79·2	9·6	3·0	2·5	2·8	3·8
May	76·9	73·5	78·7	78·7	5·2	3·1	2·6	3·1	3·5
June	75·4	72·0	77·1	77·2	5·2	2·6	2·4	2·7	2·6
July	75·1	71·6	76·8	77·0	5·4	2·4	2·2	2·6	2·5
August	75·9	72·5	77·6	77·5	5·0	2·2	2·1	2·2	2·4
September	74·8	70·8	76·8	77·0	6·2	2·5	1·9	2·9	2·6
October	73·7	69·1	76·2	75·9	6·8	1·6	1·2	1·9	1·6
November	73·1	67·0	76·6	75·8	8·8	2·3	2·0	2·5	2·5
December	71·3	66·0	74·6	73·4	7·4	1·5	2·0	1·1	1·5
Year	74·0	69·0	76·5	76·5	7·5	2·9	2·1	2·9	3·6

TABLE XVII. *(continued)*.—Evaporation.

Month.	Mean.	Min.	9½ A.M.	3½ P.M.	Range.	Difference. Dry and Wet-bulb. Mean.	Min.	9½ A.M.	3½ P.M.
4.—ANURÁDHAPURA.									
January	67·8	60·2	71·1	72 2	8·0	8·3	5·3	8·8	10·7
February	66·2	58·0	69·9	70·6	12·6	10·7	7·0	11·4	13·8
March	67·7	61·0	71·4	70 6	8·6	13·4	6·1	13·0	21·2
April	74·7	70 7	76·8	76·7	6·0	7·1	1·7	8·1	11·4
May	73·1	70·2	73·6	75·4	5·2	9·2	2·6	12·1	13·0
June ... } (incomplete) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
July ... }									
August	75·5	71·4	76·1	79·0	7·6	8·1	2·2	9·7	12·5
September	75·8	71·1	77·3	79·0	7·9	8·2	3·2	9·7	11·7
October	74·1	69·9	76·3	76·2	6·3	5·2	1·9	6·4	7·2
November	72·7	68·2	74·8	75·1	6·9	4·9	2·3	6·5	5 9
December	71·3	68·2	73·1	72·6	4·4	4·9	2·8	4·7	7·2
Year	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
5.—MANNÁR.									
January	74·1	70·7	75·5	76·2	5·5	4·1	2·5	4·2	5·7
February	73·9	69·5	75·4	76·7	7·2	4·8	1·9	5·6	6·8
March	76·8	71·0	79·0	80·4	9·4	5·1	1·3	6·3	7·8
April	78·4	74·5	80·2	80 5	6·0	4·8	1 7	6·4	6·4
May	80·2	77·7	81·3	81·7	4·0	4·4	2·5	5·2	5·5
June	78 9	76·5	79·9	80·3	3·8	3·6	2·2	4·3	4·4
July	78·8	76·1	79·9	80·5	4·4	3·6	1·9	4·3	4·7
August	78·8	75·7	80 0	80 6	4·9	3·8	1·9	4·9	4·8
September	79·1	75·9	80·5	81 0	5·1	3·5	1·4	4·5	4·7
October	75·4	71·1	77·6	77·4	6·3	4·0	4·0	4·3	3·8
November	76·0	73·1	77·3	77·7	4·6	3·7	1·6	4·7	4·7
December	74·9	72·8	75 8	76·1	3·3	2·3	1·5	2·7	2·6
Year	77 1	73·7	78·5	79·1	5·4	4·0	2·0	4·8	5·2
6.—JAFFNA.									
January	72·4	68·8	74·3	74·1	5 3	5·3	1·4	6 9	7·7
February	72·1	68·1	74·3	74·0	5·9	6·8	1·9	8·5	9·9
March	76·0	72·4	77·7	77·9	5·5	6·6	2·7	7·1	10·0
April	79·2	76·2	80·9	80·4	4·2	5·5	2·3	6·0	8·2
May	79·5	77·4	80·5	80 6	3·2	4·2	2·9	4·8	4·8
June	77·8	75·8	78·7	78·8	3·0	4·0	2·9	4·7	4·5
July	77·7	75·8	78 9	78·5	2·7	4·5	2·9	5·2	5·5
August	78·8	76·3	79·9	80·1	3·8	3·1	1·7	3·3	4·5
September	77·9	75·5	78·9	79·2	3·7	4·6	2·7	5·3	5·8
October	76·4	73·9	77·6	77·8	3·9	3·2	1·6	3·8	4·1
November	75·6	73·0	77·2	76·7	3·7	3·3	0·9	4·7	4·2
December	74·0	72·0	75·3	74·8	2·8	2 4	1·1	3·1	2 9
Year	76·4	73·8	77 9	77·7	3·9	4·5	2·1	5·3	6·0
7.—TRINCOMALEE.									
January	73·2	71·8	73·8	73·9	2·1	4·2	2·9	4 6	5·1
February	73·0	71·1	73·7	74·2	3·1	5·3	3·3	5 9	6·6
March	74·6	70·4	76·1	77 2	6·8	5·6	1·9	6·8	8·0
April	77·4	74·3	78·4	79·5	5·2	4·8	1·5	6·3	6·6
May	77·4	74·6	77·9	79·7	5·1	7·6	3·4	9·1	10 2
June	75·9	73·3	76·6	77·8	4·5	8 1	3·5	8·8	12·1
July	75·6	73 2	76·1	77·4	4·2	7·6	3·6	8 4	11·0
August	75·0	72·1	75·6	77·2	5·1	7·5	3·3	9·8	9·4
September	75·2	71·9	75·7	77·9	6·0	7·0	3·7	9·1	8 4
October	74·8	72·1	75·7	76·7	4·6	4·7	2 2	5·9	6·0
November	74·8	72·5	75·9	76 0	3·5	3·8	1·8	4·2	5·5
December	74·2	72·2	75·2	75·1	2·9	2·1	1·1	2 6	2 8
Year	75·1	72·5	75·9	76·9	4·4	5·7	2·7	6·8	7 6
8.—BATTICALOA.									
January	72·7	69·8	74·3	74·1	4·5	3·0	1·7	2·9	4·5
February	72·4	69·3	74·0	73·9	4·7	4·0	1·9	4·2	5 8
March	73 9	69·0	77·1	75·5	6·5	4 6	2·1	5 2	6·7
April	76·4	72 6	78·6	77·9	5·3	4·5	1·9	5 7	5·9
May	77·9	73·9	79·5	80·4	6·5	5 5	2·5	8·0	6·1
June	76·4	73·0	77·7	78·5	5·5	6 2	2·8	8 3	7·6
July	76·7	72·6	78·1	79·3	4·7	6·0	2·5	8·1	7·4
August ... } (out of order) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
September ... }									
October ... }									
November	76·1	71·6	78·2	78·6	7·0	2 4	1·4	2·9	2·8
December	74·3	71·1	75·9	75 9	4·8	1·7	1·5	1·6	2·0
Year	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?

TABLE XVII. *(continued)*.—Evaporation.

Month.	Mean.	Min.	9½ A.M.	3½ P.M.	Range.	Difference, Dry and Wet-bulb. Mean.	Min.	9½ A.M.	3½ P.M.
9.—HAMBANTOTA.									
January	72·8	68·8	74·4	75·3	6·5	5 2	2·7	6·4	6·4
February	72·9	68·8	74·9	74·9	6·1	6·2	2·5	7·2	8·9
March	73·8	69·7	75·9	75·9	6·2	6·1	2·0	7·7	8·7
April	76·5	73·5	77·7	78·3	4·8	4 8	1 6	6·1	6·6
May	75·8	73·2	77·1	77 2	4·0	4·1	1·9	5·0	5·3
June	75 1	72·9	76 3	76·0	3·1	4·5	1·8	5·6	6·0
July	74·5	72 2	75 7	75·6	3·4	5·1	2·4	5·9	7·0
August	74·8	72 3	76·2	75·9	3·6	4·7	2·3	5·7	6 2
September	74·1	71·5	75·5	75·3	3·8	6 5	2·9	8·0	8·7
October	73·8	70·5	75·4	75 5	5·0	5·0	2·9	5·7	6·3
November	74·5	70·8	76·3	76·5	5·7	4·6	2·0	5·4	6 3
December	73·6	70·4	75·1	75·3	4·9	3·8	2·2	4·5	4·8
Year	74·3	71·2	75·9	76·0	4·8	5·1	2·3	6·1	6·8
10.—GALLE.									
January	75·3	72·6	76·3	77·0	4 4	2·4	1·6	2·4	3·3
February	74·8	72 0	75·7	76 8	4·8	3·3	2 0	3·4	4·5
March	76·2	73·1	77·1	78·3	5·2	3 7	2·2	4·0	5·0
April	78·5	76·0	79·1	80·3	4·3	2·2	1·6	2·3	2·7
May	78·9	77·3	79 6	79·9	2·6	2·3	2·0	2·1	2·7
June	77·4	75 5	78·4	78·3	2·8	1·6	1·4	1·6	1·9
July	77·4	75·9	77 9	78 4	2·5	2·3	1·9	2·2	2·8
August	77·5	75 8	78 3	78·5	2·7	2·2	2·0	2·0	2 6
September	77·9	76·1	78·9	78·8	2·7	2·2	1·6	2·7	2·3
October	76 6	74·5	77·2	78·0	3·5	1·3	0 9	1·3	1·7
November	77·3	74 9	78·0	78 9	4·0	1·6	1·0	1·6	2 2
December	75·9	73·7	76·4	77·5	3·8	1·6	1 0	1·7	2·1
Year	77·0	74·8	77·7	78·4	3·6	2·2	1·6	2·3	2·8
11.—KANDY.									
January	67·1	62·6	67·9	70·7	8·1	5·4	1·5	6·6	8·2
February	66·4	61·0	67·7	70 5	9·5	6·9	2·7	8·3	9.8
March	66·9	61 5	69·4	69 7	8·2	9·1	1·2	10 0	16·1
April	71·1	66·3	73 5	73·6	7·3	5·2	1·3	7·7	6·6
May	71 4	66 9	73 3	74·1	7·2	5·8	2·2	7·3	8·0
June	71·9	67·1	74·3	74 2	7 1	3·0	2·1	3·1	3·8
July	70·4	66·5	72·0	72·6	6·1	4·6	2 3	5·8	7 7
August	70·4	66·3	72·0	72 9	6·6	4·7	2·0	6 1	6 0
September	69·7	65·5	71 5	72 0	6·5	5·2	1·7	6·9	7·2
October	69·3	65 2	71·3	71·3	6·1	4·1	1·9	5·5	5·0
November	70·1	65·3	72·5	72·5	7·2	4·1	1·3	6·1	4·8
December	69·7	66·2	70·8	72·0	5·8	3·0	1·2	4·0	3·8
Year	69·5	65·1	71·3	72·2	7·1	5·1	1·8	6·4	7·2
12.—NUWARA ELIYA.									
January	52·1	45·1	55·1	56·2	11·1	3·5	1·7	5·2	3·7
February	51·1	42·7	54·4	56·2	13·5	5·1	2·4	7·7	5·1
March	49·8	40·1	53·6	55·8	15·7	8·1	2·9	13·0	8·3
April	55·8	49·0	59·3	59 0	10·0	2 5	0·5	4 9	2·1
May	56·9	51·2	60·0	59·4	8·2	1·6	0·5	3·3	1·1
June	54·7	52·2	56·2	55·8	3·6	0·3	0·3	0·5	0·2
July	53·7	49·8	55·8	55·4	5·6	1·8	1·3	1·9	2 2
August	55·2	50·6	57·6	57·3	6·7	1·2	0·5	2·0	1·1
September	54·2	49·3	56·7	56·7	7·4	2·2	1·4	3·3	2 0
October	54·8	49·2	57·7	57·5	8 3	1·5	0·7	2·5	1 2
November	54·7	47·7	58·8	57 5	9·8	1·3	0·5	2·6	0·9
December	55·0	50·5	57·6	57·0	7·5	0·8	0·5	1 3	0·6
Year	54·0	48·1	56·9	57·0	8·9	2·5	1·1	4 0	2·3
13.—HAKGALA.									
January	56·5	50·5	58·5	60·5	10·0	3 5	3·1	4 2	3·1
February	56 7	48·6	59·7	61·9	13 3	4·4	4·3	5·1	3·7
March	55 9	45·2	60·6	61·9	16·7	8 5	6·2	10·3	4·9
April	59·1	53 6	62·2	61·9	8·0	4·3	2·4	6·2	4·2
May	59·6	55·2	62·0	61·7	6·5	3·4	1·4	5·4	3·3
June	58·3	55·4	60·1	59·3	3·9	1·6	1·0	1·9	1·9
July	59·2	54·8	61·5	61·2	6·4	1·3	0·9	1·4	1·6
August	59·6	54·9	63 2	60·6	5·7	1·7	1·1	1·9	2·2
September	57·6	53·8	59 8	59·4	5·6	3·8	2·0	5·0	4·3
October	57·9	53·8	60·0	59·8	6·0	2·7	1 1	4 0	3 1
November	57·9	53·1	60·3	60 2	7·1	1·9	1·0	2·9	1·8
December	57·7	54·9	59 1	59·1	4 2	0·7	0·5	1·0	0·7
Year	58·0	52·8	60·6	60·6	7·8	3·1	2·1	4·1	3·2

TABLE XVII. *(continued)*.—Evaporation.

Month.	Mean.	Min.	9½ A.M.	3½ P.M.	Range.	Difference, Dry and Wet-bulb. Mean.	Min.	9½ A.M.	3½ P.M.
14.—BADULLA.									
January	65·1	58·1	67·6	69·5	11·4	3·0	0·9	3·9	4·1
February	66·1	59·2	68·0	71·1	11·9	4·1	1·0	5·7	5·6
March	66·9	58·3	69·7	72·7	13·4	4·3	1·1	5·5	6·4
April	70·1	64·1	7 25	73·7	9·6	5·6	1·2	7·1	8·4
May	73·0	64·9	75·6	78·7	13·8	5·7	1·2	7·2	8·6
June	71·3	6 31	73·6	77·3	14·2	5·9	0·9	7·9	8·8
July (incomplete)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
August	70·5	59 3	74 9	77·2	17·9	6·2	1·3	6·4	11·0
September	70·1	·61·8	71 2	77·3	15·5	6·6	1·0	9 3	9·6
October	69·6	62·3	71·7	74·7	12 4	4·2	1·0	6·0	5·7
November	69·2	63·1	70·8	73·6	10·5	3·5	1·0	4·6	5·1
December	67·1	61·9	68·5	70·8	8·9	2·8	1·1	3·8	3·6
Year	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
15.—VAVUNIYA-VILÁNKULAM.									
January	67·4	56·5	72·7	72·9	16·4	5·4	0·9	7·1	8·2
February	66·3	54 5	71·9	72·4	17·9	7·1	1·0	8 7	11·6
March	69·1	57·7	74·6	75·0	17·3	9·3	1·1	10·0	16·7
April	72·1	63·5	77 4	77·3	13·8	5·6	0·9	6·8	9·0
May	74·7	66 5	77·8	78·0	11·5	7·1	1·1	7·5	12·8
June	73·3	65·6	77·1	77·1	11·5	7·1	1·0	8·1	12 2
July	73·3	65·6	77·2	76·9	11·2	7·9	1·3	9·5	13·1
August	72·4	64 9	76·7	75·7	10·8	8·2	1·1	10 1	13·5
September	72·2	64·4	76·2	76·0	11·6	9·7	1·5	12·0	15·6
October	71·6	63·4	75·7	75·8	12 4	5·2	0·6	6 7	8 3
November	71·3	62·6	75·8	75·5	12·9	4·1	0·6	5·3	6·5
December	69·8	62·0	73·8	73·7	11·7	3·1	0·9	3·8	4·6
Year	71 1	62·3	75·6	75·5	13·2	6·7	1·0	8·0	11·0
16.—KURUNÉGALA.									
January	71·2	66·7	73 3	73·6	6·9	6·4	2·2	7 3	9·8
February	70·8	65·9	72·9	73 5	7·6	7·2	1·4	7·9	12·2
March	71·8	67·6	74·8	73 1	5·7	9·7	2·2	9·3	17·6
April	77·3	71 2	79·2	81·5	10·3	3·7	1·4	4·4	5·3
May	80·3	75·1	82·0	83·8	8·7	1·3	0·1	2·1	1 6
June	78 4	74·0	80·2	81·0	7·0	0·8	0·2	0 9	1·3
July	76·7	73·2	78·1	79·0	5·8	3·2	1·4	3·1	5·0
August	75·6	72·3	77·0	77·6	5·8	4·0	1·7	4·5	5 7
September	75·1	71·8	76·5	77·0	5·2	?	?	?	?
October	74 4	70·7	76·2	76 2	5·5	3 2	0·9	3 9	4·8
November	77·1	71·5	78·8	81 0	9·5	1 3	0·4	2 0	1·6
December	74 6	70·8	75·6	77·4	6·6	1·4	0 5	18	1·8
Year	75·3	70·9	77·0	77·9	7·0	?	?	?	?

TABLE XVIII.—Tension of Atmospheric Vapour for 1887.

Month.	Mean.	9½ A.M.	3½ A.M.	From Min.	Month.	Mean.	9½ A.M.	3½ P.M.	From Min.
1.—COLOMBO.					**3.—PUTTALAM.**				
January ..	·689	·720	·719	·628	January ...	·698	·766	·744	·585
February ...	·677	·703	·707	·620	February ...	·674	·765	·756	·560
March ...	·757	·791	·786	·695	March ...	·796	·875	867	·646
April ..	·829	·870	·855	·761	April ...	·864	·955	·945	·691
May ...	820	·847	·837	·777	May ...	·890	·942	·935	·793
June ..	·746	·764	·754	·720	June ...	·793	·726	901	·753
July ..	·745	·754	·753	·729	July ...	·843	·889	·895	·746
August ...	·749	·763	·756	·730	August ...	·866	·917	·911	·772
September ...	·759	·762	·753	·752	September ...	·835	·883	·875	·728
October ...	·799	·831	·806	·761	October ...	·816	878	·876	·695
November ...	·812	·845	·816	774	November ...	790	·883	·852	·636
December ...	·790	·804	·815	·752	December ...	·754	·845	·804	614
Year ...	·764	.790	·779	·725	Year ...	·802	·860	·865	·685
2.—RATNAPURA.					**4.—ANURÁDHAPURA.**				
January ...	·716	·782	·754	·613	January ...	·582	·645	·647	·453
February ...	·681	·757	·719	·566	February ...	·509	·570	·565	·391
March ...	·798	·783	·737	·574	March ...	·507	·595	·468	·458
April ...	·792	·880	·867	·628	April ...	·771	·815	·765	·732
May ...	·791	·874	·837	·661	May ...	·693	·668	·705	·706
June ...	?	?	?	?	June } (incomplete)	—	—	—	—
July ...	?	·854	·814	?	July }				
August ...	?	·843	·804	?	August ...	·778	·770	·823	·740
September ...	·776	·821	·760	·746	September ...	·786	·806	·833	·719
October ...	·787	·828	·815	·717	October ...	·778	·820	·807	·706
November ...	·769	·732	·833	·742	November ...	·743	·776	·792	·662
December ...	·797	·821	·853	·713	December ...	703	·752	·704	·654
Year ...	?	?	?	?	Year ...	?	?	?	?

TABLE XVIII. *(continued)*.—Vapour Tension.

Month.	Mean.	9¼ A.M.	3¼ P.M.	From Min.
5.—MANNÁR.				
January ...	·792	·830	·828	·719
February ...	·778	·806	·829	·699
March ...	·858	·904	·930	·740
April ...	·911	·944	·953	·835
May ...	·975	·998	1·009	·917
June ...	·941	·965	·975	·883
July ...	·939	·965	·978	·875
August ...	·934	·958	·982	·863
September ...	·951	·981	·995	·876
October ...	·829	·889	·890	·709
November ...	·854	·880	·887	·796
December ...	·837	·854	·868	·788
Year ...	·883	·915	·927	·808
6.—JAFFNA.				
January ...	·728	·757	·741	687
February ...	702	·735	·707	·663
March ...	·814	·856	·822	·763
April ...	·926	·975	·931	·871
May ...	·953	·977	·981	·901
June ...	·878	·918	·925	·852
July ...	·891	·918	·902	·852
August ...	·944	·981	·968	·884
September ...	·895	·918	·920	·846
October ...	·872	·897	·900	·818
November ...	·844	·871	·862	·800
December ...	·811	·837	·823	·773
Year ...	·856	·887	·874	·809
7.—TRINCOMALEE.				
January ...	·762	·774	·770	·742
February ...	·744	·753	·758	·720
March ...	·784	·807	·827	·718
April ...	·878	885	·920	·829
May ...	·841	·835	·876	·811
June ...	·788	·798	·792	·774
July ...	·783	·787	·792	·772
August ...	·771	·755	·807	·752
September ...	·781	·770	·842	·732
October ...	·802	·809	·839	·759
November ...	·813	·838	·825	·775
December ...	·818	·842	·835	·778
Year ...	797	·804	·824	·764
8.—BATTICALOA.				
January ...	·767	·810	·783	·707
February ...	745	·784	·760	·692
March ...	·801	·865	·856	·683
April ...	·852	·905	·876	·775
May ...	·887	·900	·957	·804
June ...	·830	·839	875	·776
July ...	841	·855	·900	·769
August, September, October (out of order)		—	—	—
November ...	·875	·926	·942	·756
December ...	·829	·876	·869	·743
Year ...	?	?	?	?
9.—HAMBANTOTA.				
January ...	·743	·766	·792	·670
February ...	·730	·760	·747	·672
March ...	·749	·765	·781	·700
April ...	·853	·870	·882	·807
May ...	·838	·861	·862	·792
June ...	·813	·834	·818	·786
July ...	·786	·808	792	·758
August ...	·800	·827	·811	·768
September ...	·756	·776	·760	·733
October ...	·770	804	·799	·707
November ...	·797	·834	·829	·728
December ...	·780	·812	·814	·714
Year ...	·785	·810	·807	·736
10.—GALLE.				
January ...	·847	·875	·885	·781
February ...	·821	·843	·862	·759
March ...	·807	·878	·755	·788
April ...	·948	·962	1·002	·879
May ...	·961	·986	·985	·911
June ...	·920	·953	·945	·864
July ...	·911	·927	·936	·869
August ...	·917	·943	·943	·866
September ...	·930	·952	·956	·882
October ...	·899	·918	·936	·842
November ...	·917	·940	·959	·853
December ...	·873	·882	·917	·820
Year ...	·896	·922	·923	·843
11.—KANDY.				
January ...	·601	·602	·650	·550
February ...	·571	·585	·624	·505
March ...	·552	·595	·527	·535
April ...	·703	·733	·748	·629
May ...	·702	·730	·743	632
June ...	·751	·812	·800	641
July ...	·681	·714	·705	·623
August ...	·689	·711	·735	·623
September ...	·663	·685	·695	·608
October ...	·667	·699	·705	·598
November ...	·695	·724	·740	·620
December ...	·691	·705	·739	·629
Year ...	·664	·691	·701	·599
12.—NUWARA ELIYA.				
January ...	·360	·382	·414	·285
February ...	·332	·347	·400	·250
March ...	·284	·277	·358	·218
April ...	·426	·454	·480	·343
May ...	·452	·485	·498	·373
June ...	·427	·448	·444	·389
July ...	·396	·426	·416	·345
August ...	·427	·456	·461	·365
September ...	·402	·428	·441	·337
October ...	·419	·452	·461	·343
November ...	·420	·469	·464	·327
December ...	·429	·463	·461	·363
Year ...	·398	·424	·441	·328
13.—HAKGALA.				
January ...	·427	·449	·496	·337
February ...	·425	·461	516	.299
March ...	·407	·421	·561	.240
April ...	·464	·498	·507	.387
May ...	·479	·499	·517	.421
June ...	·469	·497	·481	.428
July ...	·493	·531	·526	.421
August ...	·496	·560	·506	.422
September ...	·440	·463	·463	.395
October ...	·455	·477	·484	.405
November ...	·464	·493	·505	.394
December ...	·472	·493	·495	·427
Year ...	·458	487	·505	·381
14.—BADULLA.				
January ...	·591	·628	·671	·474
February ...	·600	·615	·693	·493
March ...	·619	·658	·723	·476
April ...	·675	·711	·726	·587
May ...	·757	796	·875	·600
June ...	·719	·745	·843	·569
July (incomplete) ...	—	—	—	—
August ...	·690	·785	·796	·491
September ...	·669	·649	·818	·541
October ...	·681	·703	·788	·551
November ...	·658	·669	·767	·568
December ...	·635	·651	·711	·543
Year ...	?	?	?	?

TABLE XVIII. *(continued)*.—Vapour Tension.

Month.	Mean.	9½ A.M.	3½ P.M.	From Min.
15.—V.-VILÁṆKULAM.				
January ...	·619	·710	·699	·447
February ...	·569	·654	·641	·413
March ...	·615	·724	·647	·472
April ...	·744	·847	·816	·570
May ...	·759	·853	·787	·638
June ...	·735	·824	·763	·618
July ...	·725	·807	·750	·617
August ...	·698	·785	·707	·603
September ...	·673	·743	·689	·586
October ...	·719	·789	·781	·578
November ...	·727	·822	·796	·562
December ...	·700	·784	·772	·544
Year ...	·690	·779	·737	·554
16.—KURUNEGALA.				
January ...	·682	·723	·698	·626
February ...	·663	·704	·663	·623
March ...	·655	·735	·580	·650
April ...	·895	·938	1·002	·745
May ...	1·027	1·067	1·140	·873
June ...	·966	1·019	1·042	·837
July ...	·882	·923	·925	·799
August ...	·836	868	·870	·772
September ...	?	?	?	?
October ...	·810	·851	·840	·739
November ...	·922	·959	1·039	·767
December ...	·843	·863	·917	·749
Year ...	?	?	?	?

TABLE XXII.—Mean Relative Humidity of the Air in 1887.

Month.	Mean.	9½ A.M.	3½ P.M.	From Min.
1.—COLOMBO.				
January ...	68	65	59	81
February ...	70	63	58	80
March ...	72	68	63	86
April ...	78	76	72	87
May ...	76	73	72	82
June ...	74	71	70	82
July ...	73	69	67	82
August ...	73	70	68	83
September ...	73	68	67	85
October ...	81	77	74	93
November ...	80	75	70	94
December ...	82	76	75	95
Year ...	75	71	68	86
2.—RATNAPURA.				
January ...	80	84	61	95
February ...	74	74	55	94
March ...	73	69	56	95
April ...	82	80	75	92
May ...	82	80	72	95
June ...	?	?	?	?
July ...	?	83	74	?
August ...	?	79	72	?
September ...	78	75	64	94
October ...	83	79	76	93
November ...	80	69	76	95
December ...	88	86	85	93
Year ...	?	?	?	?
3.—PUTTALAM.				
January ...	80	79	71	90
February ...	79	79	69	89
March ...	83	83	77	90
April ...	86	87	83	88
May ...	87	87	85	88
June ...	88	88	89	88
July ...	89	89	89	89
August ...	89	90	89	90
September ...	88	87	88	90
October ...	92	91	93	93
November ...	89	89	89	90
December ...	93	95	93	90
Year ...	87	87	85	90
4.—ANURÁDHAPURA.				
January ...	64	63	58	72
February ...	55	55	48	63
March ...	50	50	32	69
April ...	72	68	57	92
May ...	65	54	52	88
June, July (incomplete)	—	—	—	—
August ...	69	62	56	89
September ...	68	62	57	85
October ...	78	73	70	90
November ...	79	73	74	89
December ...	78	79	69	85
Year ...	?	?	?	?
5.—MANNÁR.				
January ...	82	81	76	88
February ...	79	76	72	96
March ...	79	74	69	93
April ...	80	74	74	93
May ...	82	79	78	89
June ...	84	82	81	90
July ...	84	82	80	91
August ...	83	79	80	91
September ...	85	81	80	93
October ...	82	82	84	81
November ...	84	80	80	93
December ...	90	87	89	93
Year ...	83	80	79	90
6.—JAFFNA.				
January ...	77	71	68	93
February ...	72	65	60	90
March ...	74	72	62	88
April ...	78	76	69	90
May ...	82	80	80	87
June ...	83	80	81	87
July ...	81	78	77	88
August ...	86	86	81	92
September ...	80	78	76	87
October ...	80	84	83	93
November ...	85	80	81	95
December ...	89	86	86	95
Year ...	81	78	75	90
7.—TRINCOMALEE.				
January ...	82	80	78	87
February ...	77	74	72	85
March ...	76	71	68	90
April ...	80	74	74	93
May ...	70	65	62	84
June ...	68	64	56	84
July ...	70	66	59	84
August ...	69	61	63	85
September ...	71	64	67	83
October ...	73	75	75	89
November ...	83	81	77	90
December ...	90	89	86	95
Year ...	76	72	70	87
8.—BATTICALOA.				
January ...	86	86	80	92
February ...	82	81	74	90
March ...	81	79	73	90
April ...	80	76	75	90
May ...	78	69	76	88
June ...	74	67	70	86
July ...	75	68	70	88
August, September, October (out of order)	—	—	—	—
November ...	89	87	87	93
December ...	92	93	91	93
Year ...	?	?	?	?

TABLE XXII. *(continued)*.—Humidity of the Air.

Month.	Mean.	9½ A.M.	3½ P.M.	From Min.
9.—HAMBANTOTA.				
January ...	77	72	73	87
February ...	74	70	64	88
March ...	75	69	66	90
April ...	81	75	74	93
May ...	82	79	78	90
June ...	81	77	75	90
July ...	78	75	71	88
August ...	80	76	75	89
September ...	74	67	69	86
October ...	78	75	74	86
November ...	80	77	74	90
December ...	83	80	79	89
Year ...	78	73	73	89
10.—GALLE.				
January ..	89	89	86	92
February ..	85	85	81	90
March ..	84	83	79	90
April ...	90	89	88	93
May ..	90	91	88	91
June ..	92	93	91	93
July	90	90	88	91
August ..	90	91	89	91
September .	90	88	90	93
October .	97	94	92	95
November ...	93	93	91	95
December ..	93	93	91	95
Year ...	90	90	88	92
11.—KANDY.				
January ..	76	71	66	92
February ...	69	64	59	85
March ..	65	59	42	94
April ..	77	68	72	92
May ..	76	70	68	90
June ...	86	86	83	90
July ...	77	75	68	88
August ..	79	74	74	90
September .	77	70	70	91
October ..	81	76	78	90
November ...	82	74	78	93
December ...	86	82	83	93
Year ...	78	72	70	91
12.—NUWARA ELIYA.				
January ...	80	73	80	88
February ...	72	61	74	82
March ...	60	43	59	78
April ...	87	75	89	97
May ..	91	83	94	97
June ...	97	97	98	98
July ...	89	89	87	92
August ...	93	89	94	97
September ...	87	82	89	91
October ...	91	86	93	95
November ...	92	86	94	96
December ...	96	93	97	97
Year ...	86	79	87	92
13.—HAKGALA.				
January ...	81	78	84	82
February ...	77	75	81	75
March ...	60	55	61	63
April ...	78	71	79	85
May ...	83	74	83	91
June ...	91	89	89	94
July ...	93	92	92	94
August ...	91	89	89	94
September ...	80	75	78	88
October ..	86	80	84	94
November ...	89	84	89	94
December ...	96	94	97	97
Year ...	84	80	84	88
14.—BADULLA.				
January ...	82	81	81	85
February ..	81	74	76	94
March	82	75	72	94
April ...	77	70	66	94
May ..	77	70	68	93
June ...	77	69	66	96
July ...	?	?	?	?
August ...	76	74	61	93
September ...	73	62	64	94
October ...	81	74	75	94
November ...	84	79	78	94
December ...	87	82	84	94
Year ..	?	?	?	?
15.—V.-VILÁṆKULAM.				
January ...	77	70	67	94
February ...	71	63	55	94
March ...	66	60	44	94
April ..	77	72	65	95
May ...	73	70	54	95
June ...	73	68	55	95
July ...	70	63	53	93
August ..	69	61	51	95
September ...	65	56	46	92
October ..	78	72	66	97
November ..	82	77	73	97
December ...	86	83	80	94
Year ...	74	68	61	95
16.—KURUNÉGALA.				
January ...	73	69	61	89
February ...	71	67	54	93
March ...	64	62	40	90
April ..	84	81	79	93
May ...	95	91	94	100
June ...	96	96	94	99
July ...	86	87	79	93
August ...	82	81	76	91
September (incomplete)	—	—	—	—
October ..	85	82	79	95
November ..	94	91	93	98
December ...	94	92	92	97
Year ...	?	?	?	?

TABLE XXV.—Mean Proportion of Clouded Sky in 1887.

Month.	Mean.	9½ A.M.	3½ P.M.
1.—COLOMBO.			
January	5·1	4·4	5·7
February	3·3	2·5	4·1
March	2·8	2·0	3·6
April	6·5	5·5	7·5
May	7·3	6·8	7·9
June	7·7	7·5	7·9
July	6·4	6·8	6·1
August	7·0	6·8	7·3
September	6·0	5·6	6·5
October	7·5	7·0	8·0
November	5·1	4·3	5·9
December	7·7	7·1	8·3
Year	6·0	5·5	6·6
2.—RATNAPURA.			
January	6·3	5·7	7·0
February	5·3	3·7	7·0
March	5·2	3·4	7·1
April	7·4	6·0	8·8
May	7·5	7·3	7·8
June	8·3	8·3	8·3
July	6·4	6·0	6·8
August	7·0	6·8	7·2
September	6·9	5·7	6·1
October	7·8	7·0	8·7
November	6·6	5·1	8·1
December	8·6	8·2	9·0
Year	6·9	6·1	7·7

TABLE XXV. *(continued)*.—Mean Proportion of Clouded Sky in 1887.

Month.	Mean.	9½ A.M.	3½ P.M.
3.—PUTTALAM.			
January	7·4	7·1	7·7
February	7·1	7·1	7·1
March	7·2	7·9	6·6
April	7·9	8·1	7·8
May	8·1	8·2	8·0
June	8·0	8·1	7·9
July	7·7	7·6	7·8
August	8·0	8·0	8·0
September	7·2	7·4	7·0
October	8·3	8·1	8·5
November	8·2	8·0	8·5
December	8·6	8·6	8·7
Year	7·8	7·8	7·8
4.—ANURÁDHAPURA.			
January	3·1	3·0	3·3
February	3·0	3·2	2·9
March	2·5	2·8	2·2
April	3·1	3·2	3·0
May	2·7	2·9	2·6
June } July } (incomplete) ...	—	—	—
August	2·5	2·8	2·2
September	2·6	2·9	2·4
October	4·2	4·5	4·0
November	4·3	4·7	3·9
December	6·2	7·0	5·5
Year	?	?	?
5.—MANNÁR.			
January	4·4	3·4	5·3
February	3·4	3·4	3·5
March	3·2	2·9	3·9
April	6·2	5·2	7·2
May	6·0	6·2	5·8
June	5·5	4·8	6·2
July	5·5	5·3	6·0
August	4·8	3·8	5·9
September	4·9	4·1	5·7
October	7·2	6·2	8·3
November	5·6	5·0	6·2
December	7·4	6·4	8·4
Year	5·3	4·7	5·9
6.—JAFFNA.			
January	7·4	7·4	7·4
February	5·8	6·3	5·3
March	4·4	3·7	5·2
April	7·4	6·8	8·0
May ...	6·4	6·8	6·0
June	7·2	8·0	6·5
July	7·2	6·9	7·5
August	6·6	6·7	6·7
September	5·9	7·1	4·7
October	7·8	8·2	7·4
November	7·0	7·0	7·0
December	8·2	8·1	8·4
Year	6·8	6·9	6·7
7.—TRINCOMALEE.			
January	5·1	5·3	4·9
February	4·4	4·5	4·2
March	3·0	2·9	3·2
April	5·1	5·0	5·2
May	4·8	4·0	5·6
June	5·5	4·7	6·4
July	5·6	4·6	6·7
August	5·4	4·1	6·7
September	4·6	3·7	5·6
October	6·5	6·2	6·8
November	5·4	5·5	5·4
December	7·7	7·6	7·9
Year	5·3	4·8	5·7
8.—BATTICALOA.			
January	7·5	7·6	7·3
February ...	7·2	7·2	7·1
March	6·7	6·4	7·1
April	6·9	6·9	6·9
May	6·6	6·5	6·7
June	7·1	7·1	7·1
July	6·7	6·9	6·6
August	6·2	6·2	6·3
September	6·0	6·2	5·9
October	6·9	6·6	7·2
November ...	6·1	6·6	5·6
December	7·3	7·2	7·4
Year	6·8	6·8	6·8
9.—HAMBANTOTA.			
January	6·2	5·6	6·8
February	5·2	4·4	6·0
March	4·1	4·4	3·9
April	5·8	5·6	6·1
May	6·9	6·9	6·9
June	7·0	6·8	7·2
July	7·0	6·9	7·2
August	7·7	7·2	8·2
September	5·6	4·9	6·4
October	7·6	7·6	7·7
November	6·4	5·9	6·9
December	7·8	8·4	8·6
Year	6·5	6·2	6·8
10.—GALLE.			
January	4·4	3·6	5·3
February	3·9	2·9	4·9
March	2·9	2·7	3·2
April	4·6	4·9	4·4
May	4·7	5·0	4·4
June	5·2	4·9	5·5
July	4·3	3·9	4·7
August	4·8	5·0	4·7
September	4·0	3·9	4·2
October	6·2	6·5	5·9
November	4·3	4·1	4·5
December	5·5	5·2	6·0
Year	4·6	4·4	4·8
11.—KANDY.			
January	5·6	5·2	6·0
February	5·3	4·5	6·2
March	3·9	3·1	4·7
April	6·1	4·2	7·9
May	5·8	5·0	6·6
June	7·0	6·6	7·5
July	6·0	5·9	6·2
August	6·1	6·2	6·0
September	6·3	6·2	6·4
October	6·9	6·1	7·7
November	6·2	4·8	7·6
December	7·8	6·9	8·7
Year	6·1	5·4	6·8
12.—NUWARA ELIYA.			
January	4·7	4·1	5·2
February	3·3	2·0	4·6
March	2·1	0·9	3·3
April	5·8	4·7	7·0
May	5·6	5·3	6·0
June	7·1	6·4	7·9
July	4·4	4·2	4·6
August	4·7	4·1	5·4
September	5·6	5·1	6·2
October	6·4	5·5	7·3
November	5·1	4·1	6·2
December	5·7	5·3	6·1
Year	5·0	4·3	5·7

TABLE XXV. *(continued)*.—Mean Proportion of Clouded Sky in 1887.

Month.	Mean.	9½ A.M.	3½ P.M.
13.—HAKGALA.			
January	6·9	6·3	7·5
February	5·5	4·7	6·2
March	3·0	2·1	4·0
April	6·9	5·4	8·5
May	5·8	4·1	7·5
June	7·0	6·4	7·7
July	5·9	5·4	6·5
August	6·9	5·6	8·2
September	6·2	5·7	6·8
October	7·7	6·7	8·7
November	7·8	7·0	8·7
December	9·3	9·0	9·7
Year	6·6	5·7	7·5
14.—BADULLA.			
January	5·3	4·5	6·2
February	4·0	3·4	4·7
March	3·7	3·1	4·3
April	5·1	4·1	6·2
May	6·0	5·0	7·0
June	3·7	4·5	5·0
July (incomplete) ...	—	—	—
August	5·8	5·0	6·7
September	4·2	3·0	5·5
October	5·6	4·9	6·4
November	6·6	6·2	7·0
December	7·4	7·2	7·7
Year	?	?	?

Month.	Mean.	9½ A.M.	3½ P.M.
15.—VAVUNIYA-VILÁŞKULAM.			
January	5·7	6·4	5·0
February	4·7	5·5	3·9
March	4·5	4·6	4·5
April	6·4	6·8	6·0
May	5·9	7·2	4·7
June	6·1	6·9	5·4
July	6·0	6·6	5·5
August	6·2	6·5	6·0
September	5·6	5·1	6·0
October	6·3	6·6	6·1
November	6·4	7·2	5·7
December	6·4	7·0	5·9
Year	5·9	6·4	5·4
16.—KURUNÉGALA.			
January	6·6	6·1	7·0
February	4.7	4·1	5·3
March	5·4	5·0	5·9
April	7·3	6·8	7·9
May	7·7	7·7	7·8
June	8·3	8·6	8·0
July	7·4	7·9	7·0
August	7·4	7·4	7·4
September	6·2	6·9	5·6
October	7·6	7·2	8·0
November	6·1	5·5	6·7
December	8·0	7·7	8·3
Year	6·9	6·7	7·1

TABLE XXIX.—Inches of Rainfall in each Month of 1887.

Province.	Station.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year.
Western ...	Colombo ...	2·31	2·20	1·66	23·80	14 14	6·58	1·18	4·85	0·48	13 43	6·54	6·98	84·15
Do. ...	Ratnapura ...	2·06	2·20	3·61	16·01	26 65	28·46	7 75	15.01	3·00	12·89	17 21	11·24	146·09
North-Western	Puttalam ...	0·13	0·84	2·10	7·30	1·91	1·08	0·55	0·02	0	12·84	10·10	17·35	54·22
North-Central	Anuradhapura ...	0·86	2·72	2·21	11·45	0	0 91	0	0·29	0	15·58	6·46	26·53	67·01
Northern ...	Mannár ...	0·20	1·01	4·35	1·66	0·10	2·33	0	0	0 02	12·27	6·89	23·05	51·88
Do. ...	Jaffna ...	0·75	2·06	1·00	2·43	0·27	3·17	0·01	1·07	0 67	15·53	6·76	22·00	55·72
Eastern ...	Trincomalee ...	0·53	0·38	0·26	3·87	1·09	2 63	2·03	9·21	1·52	7·73	8·52	27·82	65·59
Do. ...	Batticaloa ...	5·45	7·16	0·05	1·10	0·19	1·32	0·19	3·04	0·90	6·37	5·03	24·12	54·92
Southern ...	Hambantota ...	1·33	0·15	1·58	3·87	1·47	2 32	2·29	1·30	0	4 67	4·70	9·07	32·75
Do. ...	Gallo ...	5·31	6·18	0·77	11·69	5·18	8·21	2 46	8·54	2 80	17·21	13·33	9·63	91·31
Central ...	Kandy ..	3·74	5·47	1·17	12·98	2·34	7 36	4 65	3 98	4·38	11·96	13·60	16·31	87·94
Do. ...	Nuwara Eliya ...	1·70	2·72	0·72	8·07	4·82	8·94	8 95	4·13	7·90	16·54	9·48	20·33	94 30
Do. ...	Hakgala ...	4·89	3·67	1·21	7·48	8·20	4 45	5 05	3·32	6·43	10·04	13 40	33·77	101·91
Do. ...	Badulla ...	3·76	2·95	0·31	8·12	8 90	1·01	1·12	5·51	0·15	7·70	12 72	41·79	94·04
Northern .	V.-Vilápkulam...	0·55	0·49	0·92	7·05	0	0 71	0 13	2·29	0·46	10·95	7·74	29·19	60·48
North-Western	Kurunégala ...	1·90	2·14	2·65	14·07	3·25	8·79	2 83	5·63	2·12	22·36	15·30	14·17	95·21

TABLE XXX.—Number of Days on which Rainfall was Measured in 1887.

Province.	Station.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year.
Western ...	Colombo ...	6	7	5	24	21	23	6	18	6	25	19	22	182
Do. ...	Ratnapura ...	4	7	8	21	19	25	5	10	7	15	12	15	148
North-Western	Puttalam ...	4	5	4	7	4	5	3	1	0	16	17	23	89
North-Central	Anurádhapura ...	3	3	3	16	0	2	0	2	0	19	15	19	82
Northern ...	Mannár ...	3	3	3	5	1	1	0	0	1	19	18	22	76
Do. ...	Jaffna ...	3	4	2	10	2	6	1	5	5	18	18	24	98
Eastern ...	Trincomalee ...	6	3	3	14	2	4	8	11	5	22	18	24	120
Do. ...	Batticaloa ...	12	6	2	7	2	6	2	10	3	19	15	25	109
Southern ...	Hambantota ...	3	4	1	6	8	4	3	8	0	14	10	17	78
Do. ...	Gallo ...	13	11	4	19	21	28	19	25	13	24	25	21	223
Central ...	Kandy ...	8	9	4	20	14	27	17	21	15	25	26	27	213
Do. ...	Nuwara Eliya ...	13	10	7	21	19	29	19	22	18	27	23	29	237
Do. ...	Hakgala ...	15	11	7	19	17	27	16	15	20	24	23	29	223
Do. ...	Badulla ...	12	3	3	14	11	3	1	10	2	16	17	25	117
Northern ...	V.-Vilápkulam...	5	4	5	15	0	4	1	4	2	24	12	18	94
North-Western	Kurunégala ...	3	4	3	21	12	23	9	17	11	25	16	17	161

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Surveyor-General.

SURVEY DEPARTMENT.

REPORT ON THE SURVEY DEPARTMENT FOR 1887.

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GENERAL.

Departmental Changes.—During the year 1887 the casualties and changes in the Department were as follows :—

The year has, I regret to say, been an exceptionally unfortunate one, owing to the sickness of a large number of surveyors that were employed for long periods in the unhealthy jungles of the North-Central and Northern Provinces. In spite of every endeavour to give them intermittent periods of change to healthier localities, the loss to Government of their services during sickness from fever and dysentery was in the aggregate considerable. The way in which the officer in charge of the surveys under Kaláwewa tank, Mr. J. J. O'Dowd, Acting Chief Surveyor, North-Central Province, remained at his post, although himself suffering severely from fever, is beyond all praise. He has worked continuously without relief throughout the year.

Messrs. C. H. Oldham, Pole, and Gray, were appointed supernumerary Assistant Surveyors in January.

In the same month Mr. J. Ingleby, Chief Surveyor, North-Central Province, went to Europe on leave, necessitated by frequent and severe attacks of fever contracted while surveying applications in the neighbourhood of Balakalawewa.

Mr. T. J. Reynolds, Chief Surveyor, Southern Province, also proceeded on leave to Europe in April, and Mr. D. G. Mantell, Chief Surveyor, Central Province, followed him in the same month.

In November Messrs. W. B. De Saram and Canagasaby were appointed supernumerary Assistant Surveyors.

In the office staff, I regret to report the loss by death, in July, of Mr. W. M. Loos, storekeeper, after a long and painful illness. Though a young man, he proved himself a faithful servant of Government, and the Department lost an efficient storekeeper. Mr. E. A. Bracker, clerk and draughtsman, died in January, after twenty years' service.

In August Mr. J. L. Peries was appointed Mudaliyár of the Alutkúru kóralé. On December 8 Mr. B. VanRooyen retired on pension after a service of twenty-eight and half years.

The Surveyor-General acted as General Manager of the Railway from February to September, in addition to his own duties, and in October was appointed to act as Conservator of Forests.

Inspection Tours.—In January and February duties of a Departmental nature or in connection with the Irrigation Board, took me to the North-Central, Northern, and Western Provinces.

General scope of work done during the year.—A large amount of work was undertaken during the year in connection with irrigation schemes and forest reservation.

Surveys under these heads, important though they be, make serious inroads upon the time of the Department, and now that Government has addressed itself to the task of taking up the question of Forest Conservation seriously, there will be a still greater tax on the resources of the Department, as it will be required to undertake the surveys and demarcation of the forests selected for reservation, many of which are barely known, and the vast majority of which are not mapped in any way.

The importance of irrigation and forest conservation is so great in respect to the well-being of the present and future generations, that, besides any surveys made under instructions of Government, I have had hitherto no hesitation in taking up these questions wherever I find them possible, dove-tailing them in with the ordinary duties of the surveyors. Still, I desire to point out that surveys of applications for land are necessarily delayed by these demands for what may be called extraneous work.

A large tract of country in the North-Central Province, lying under the Yéda-ela from Balakalawewa, was surveyed and levelled. Irrigation surveys were also carried out under Vavuniya-Vilákulam, Iratperiyakulam, and in the Walapané division of the Central Province, while extensive surveys were made along the Ratnapura side of the Peak range to enable the Government Agent to settle the rights of the natives and stop encroachments upon the adjoining Crown forests.

A considerable mileage of roads and streams was surveyed and mapped, especially in the North-Central Province, where an extensive network of streams, roads, pin-páras, and village tracks was added to the map, which was formerly almost devoid of detail.

Only a limited extent of boundary survey was undertaken during the year, viz., a portion of the boundaries between the Southern and Western and between the Central and Western Provinces, and some miles of kóralé and pattuwa boundaries in the Western Province: the latter being only taken up when surveyors engaged on applications happened to be in the neighbourhood of unsurveyed portions.

Besides the foregoing works, the minor triangulation, village and road surveys, land acquisition questions for the Railway and Public Works Departments, training of apprentices for the Public Works Department, and questions of encroachment, more or less complicated, have occupied the time of the surveyors.

Pecuniary Results of the Year's Work.—There is a considerable reduction in the revenue derived from land sales, as compared with the previous year, amounting to Rs. 88,470, the total revenue from this source reaching in 1887 only Rs. 330,164. This is the lowest return since the year 1856. The natural result of the falling off, while the expenditure of the Department is slightly increased, is, that the expenditure exceeds the revenue in a marked degree, being Rs. 58,540 in excess. Over this falling off in the revenue, the Department can manifestly exercise no control. The effect of the Government policy in regard to the acquisition of land gratis by natives, although it may bring in revenue under a different heading, manifests itself in the loss of revenue from land sales.

Revenue earned by the Department.—The falling off in land sales is naturally reflected on the revenue earned by the Department. Of the total revenue of Rs. 330,164 the amount realised by survey fees, plans, &c., is Rs. 46,579.

Crown Land Sales.—The falling off in the revenue is noticeable in the Western, Southern, Northern, and North-Central, while an increase has occurred in the Central, Eastern, North-Western, and Uva Provinces. The chief falling off is in the Western Province (Rs. 106,806), where, unfortunately, the natives are the most well-to-do and can best afford to pay for land; the North-Western, on the other hand, shows an increase of Rs. 11,648, competition for cocoanut land being most keen in this Province.

The number of lots alienated from the Crown, including those sold under Sir Henry Ward's Minute, was 3,354, embracing an area of 19,594 acres. Of these, 167 lots, aggregating 4,088 acres 3 roods and 30 perches, were purchased by Europeans at an average of Rs. 19·52 per acre, showing a falling off in price as compared with last year, but still an improvement on that realised in 1885; 2,903 lots, comprising an extent of 13,691 acres 2 roods and 25 perches, were disposed of to natives at an average rate of Rs. 15·92 per acre.

The sales to natives are about the same as last year, but there is a falling off in purchases by Europeans by about 2,738 acres.

Expenditure of the Department.—The gross expenditure of the Department from its own votes amounted to Rs. 388,703·18, but the following deductions should be made from this amount for extraneous work:—

	Rs.	c.
Miscellaneous work, &c	93,552	88
Meteorological, &c.	4,243	9
Instruments	4,529	36
Lithography, &c.	4,190	13
	106,515	46

leaving Rs. 282,187·72 due to the general working of the Department.

Although the expenditure of the Department is higher than last year, it is not so in comparison with the acreage. Last year it was Rs. 279,734 for 66,949 acres. This year it was Rs. 282,187·72 for 77,790 acres, showing a reduction in the cost of surveys of about 10 per cent.

FIELD WORK.

(1) TRIANGULATION.

Minor Triangulation.—The minor triangulation of the Island was continued during the year by the field surveyors as opportunity offered by the opening up of new ground. In all, thirty new stations were established and observed from, and these were subsequently fixed with reference to the meridian of Pidurutalágala by the Trigonometrical Assistant at headquarters. Fifty-four old stations were also re-calculated and re-fixed.

The usual routine of supplying scored points, meridional bearings, &c., for the accurate fixation of survey work in the field, was duly performed.

Great Triangulation.—The great triangulation of the northern part of the Island, for the purpose of connecting the Ceylon system with the Madras coast series of the Great Trigonometrical Survey of India, was completed this year by Mr. S. J. C. More, District Surveyor.

The difficulties attending this important work have been mentioned in my report of preceding years, rendering superfluous any further repetition. The entire cost of the work has been Rs. 11,887·09—a very small sum compared with the scientific and geographical value of the results and the accurate fixation of the north-western coast of the Island, which had hitherto been left undetermined. From the coast series as a basis, I hope, in the next few years, to extend the network of triangulation to the north-east coast—over, in fact, the Northern Province.

During the year the latitudes, longitudes, and azimuths of eighteen new stations were computed by figural methods similar to those employed in the Great Trigonometrical Survey of India.

(2) Topographical and Revenue Surveys.

Considerable advance was made during the year with surveys of roads, streams, and lakes in all the Provinces, but more especially in the North-Central, where 186½ miles of roads were surveyed and mapped in connection with the surveys of applications made by the staff working under the superintendence of Mr. R. B. Campbell. In all, 297 miles of roads were surveyed and mapped.

Mr. Grinlinton surveyed 7 miles, and Mr. Harris 20 miles of the boundary between the Central and Western Provinces for proclamation purposes, while Mr. Snowden surveyed 25 miles of the boundary between the Southern and Western Provinces and 12 miles of the Gindura river—a very rough country. Pattuwa and kóralé boundaries were surveyed as opportunity was offered by the proximity of applications.

(a) *Surveys of Crown Lands for Sale or Settlement.*

Extent of Work done in comparison with preceding year.—During the past year the total area of new ground surveyed was as follows:—

Province.	Total Acreage.			Acreage surveyed by Chief Surveyors.			Acreage and Cost of Work done by District and Assistant Surveyors. Acreage.			Total Cost.		Average Cost per Acre.	
	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Western ...	49,133	0	19	—			49,133	0	19	54,623	97	1	11
Central ...	7,119	0	0	—			7,119	0	0	15,106	23½	2	12
Uva ...	731	0	0	—			731	0	0	4,435	15	6	6
North-Western ...	11,188	0	0	477	0	0	10,711	0	0	20,021	31	1	86
North-Central ...	3,756	1	18	20	0	6	3,736	1	12	7,374	46	1	97
Northern ...	1,297	1	8	—			1,297	1	8	5,144	61	3	19
Southern ...	2,549	0	32	150	2	19	2,398	2	13	14,730	20½	6	14
Eastern ...	2,016	1	5	80	2	38	1,935	2	7	7,370	53½	3	81
	77,790	1	2	728	1	23	77,061	3	19	128,806	47½	1	67

Acreage done per Surveyor.—Notwithstanding the large amount of extraneous work performed by the Department during 1887, the acreage surveyed during the year for sale or settlement shows an increase of 11,358 acres as compared with 1886. The average number of acres surveyed by an officer under the rank of Chief Surveyor was 1,639 as against 1,275 in 1885, 1,392 in 1884, and 1,116 in 1883. This is very creditable to the surveyors as a body, and I cannot speak too highly of the zeal shown by the younger members. The average cost per acre was Rs. 1·67—a marked improvement on previous years.

(b) *Cadastral Surveys.*

The cadastral surveys were carried on in the extensive villages of Gilimalé and Bambarabotuwa under Adam's Peak range and in several villages in the Kelani Valley forest reserve. The surveys under Adam's Peak were executed under specially trying circumstances in a country of an exceedingly rough nature, and subject to sudden and violent floods. The staff employed in the work under the superintendence of Mr. C. C. M. Fyers were Messrs. Davidson, Leembruggen, De Saram, Berwick, and Oldham. The work was completed in a very satisfactory manner, and, considering the difficulties, most expeditiously.

(c) *Irrigation Surveys.*

The chief work under this head during the year was the survey of lands irrigable under the Yóda-ela in the North-Central Province. The party was in charge of the Acting Chief Surveyor Mr. J. J. O'Dowd, and was composed of the following officers:—Messrs. Maddock, Pole, Carey, Robertson, Oldham, Gray, and Mortimer. The two first-named were engaged on the work during the whole year; the remainder, owing to sickness and other causes, for intermittent periods. The acreage surveyed during 1887 was about 26,000 acres, at a cost of 80c. per acre. The party worked well under adverse circumstances, struggling hard and bearing up against the repeated attacks of malarial fever and dysentery so prevalent in the jungles of this Province.

Levels were taken under Basawakkulam and Tisawewa by Mr. R. B. Campbell.

In the Northern Province Mr. Viner surveyed irrigable lands for sale under Vavuniya-Vilankulam and Iratperiyakulam.

In the Western Province the irrigable lands under the Batugedara channel were surveyed by Mr. H. P. Lovering.

In the Central Province Mr. Erskine completed the report and surveys in the valley of the Amban-ganga. Mr. Harris carried out surveys of lands under the Kurundu-oya, Dewani-ela, and Wataragoda-ela; and Mr. Hampton investigated and reported on a proposed irrigation scheme in the Kehelgamuwa valley.

In the Eastern Province surveys were made and levels taken of irrigable lands under Ambari and Irrikkaman by the Chief Surveyor, Mr. Ward, assisted by Mr. O. Ohlmus. Surveys and sections were also made of the bunds of Diyarita, Arapotai, and Kokilu tanks for the information of the Irrigation Board.

In the Southern Province surveys were made in connection with the Deduru-oya and Karajapitiya schemes.

(d) *Boundary Surveys.*

Some progress has been made in connection with the survey of Province, District, and kóralé boundaries.

Part of the boundaries between the Central and Western and Southern and Western Provinces was surveyed.

(e) *Miscellaneous Surveys.*

(i.) *Railway Surveys.*—Numerous questions in connection with leasing railway reserve lands were attended to, and encroachments examined and reported upon.

Mr. Grinlinton examined and reported on the proposed route for a railway from Polgahawela to Dambulla *en route* to Jaffna.

(ii.) *Coast Surveys.*—Points on the north-west coast and on the adjacent islands were fixed in the course of the Great Triangulation, and the groundwork laid for future surveys.

(iii.) *Forest Surveys.*—The surveys of Gilimalé, Bambaraboṭuwa, and Kelani Valley have already been referred to. Besides this, numerous other questions were attended to. The boundaries of Barawa forest were defined with a view to permanent boundary marks being erected by the Forest Department.

The survey of Mitirigala forest, in the Western Province, another forest reserve, was also commenced, as well as a large proposed reserve on the left bank of the Mi-oya in the neighbourhood of Puttalam.

(iv.) *Harbour Surveys.*—A survey and soundings of French Pass, in Trincomalee harbour, were carried out by Mr. F. W. B. Campbell, for the War Office, in connection with the defence of Trincomalee.

(3) LEVELLING OPERATIONS.

Very little primary levelling was done during 1887, but a great deal of levelling was done in connection with the irrigation surveys in progress. Mr. F. H. Grinlinton ran a line of primary levels (36 miles) from Kurunégala to Dambulla to complete the system over that portion of the country and in connection with the railway survey.

OFFICE WORK.

The whole of the work received from the field surveyors was reduced in the office, and placed in position on the general record maps, on the scale of five inches to a mile and one inch to a mile, respectively, under the superintendence of the head draughtsmen.

Preliminary Plans.—The number of preliminary plans prepared from the field sheets, and forwarded to Government Agents during the year, is shown in return C.

Title Plans.—During the year 3,247 sets of title plans, in triplicate, for 20,943 acres were prepared and forwarded to the Government Agents, as follows :—

Province	Plans	Sets of Three.	Extent in Acres. A.	R.	P.
Central ...	693 ..	231 ...	1,070	1	26·48
Western ...	2,949 ...	983 ...	9,467	0	28·33
Eastern ...	714 ...	238 ...	900	0	32
Southern ...	2,019 ...	673 ..	2,097	3	7·3
Northern ...	357 ...	119 ...	574	1	29·50
North-Western ...	2,373 ...	791 ...	5,864	2	35·81
North-Central ...	336 ...	112 ...	564	3	30·11
Uva ...	300 .	100 ...	404	0	10·12
Total ...	9,741	3,247	20,943	2	39·38

Admiralty Coast Surveys and Soundings.—An extensive diagram of trigonometrical stations on the east of the Island was prepared, at the request of the Admiralty, for Captain Aldrich of H. M. S. Egeria, who was in charge of the coast surveys ; and a schedule showing the descriptions and co-ordinates was prepared by Mr. C. H. Allen. Numerous tracings of the coast on the scale of 1 mile and 16 chains to an inch were also supplied to the same officer, and every assistance rendered to him.

Value of Plans supplied gratis to Government Officials.—The cost price value of the plans supplied to Government officials, free of charge, was :—

	Rs.	c.
North-Western, Central, and Province of Uva Room	237	50
Western, North-Central, and Northern Province Room	179	50
Southern and Eastern Province Room	180	50
Miscellaneous Room	359	75
Total ...	957	25

Sales to the General Public.—In the Miscellaneous Room, plans and tracings were prepared for the general public, and Rs. 2,719 realised in fees under this heading.

Work done in the Lithographic Room.—The chief work carried to completion in this Department was the new Itinerary map printed in colours. It is the first work of the sort undertaken in the Island, and considerable improvement has been made in the process since the map was commenced, but, taken as a whole, it is a very creditable performance. Heavy work was done in connection with the report on the failure of the Máligákanda Reservoir.

During the year 20,616 maps, plans, circulars, and forms were prepared and printed for various purposes.

Work done by the Instrument Repairer.—The instrument repairer's work was of the usual miscellaneous character.

Surveyor-General's Office,
Colombo, April 24, 1887.

F. C. H. CLARKE, LT.-COL., R.A.,
Surveyor-General.

A.—Return of Lands alienated from the Crown during 1887.

Province.	Crown Lands Sold.				Encroachments Sold or given at a Valuation.				Granted at Half-value.				Free Grants or Settlements for Certificates against the Crown.			Total results of Sales, &c., of each Province during the year.				Amount including Fees.
	Lots.	Extent.	Amount.	Fees.	Lots.	Extent.	Amount.	Fees.	Lots.	Extent.	Amount.	Fees.	Lots.	Extent.	Fees.	Lots.	Extent.	Amount.	Fees.	
	No.	Acres.	Rs.	Rs.	No.	Acres.	Rs.	Rs.	No.	Acres.	Rs.	Rs.	No.	Acres.	Rs.	No.	Acres.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Central ...	72	743	7,856	1,678	—	—	—	—	3	20	212	59	57	142	408	132	905	8,068	2,145	10,213
Western ...	771	6,008	107,582	12,542	—	—	—	—	75	165	1,750	504	150	340	1,055	996	6,513	109,332	14,101	123,433
Eastern ...	112	439	5,019	1,205	9	2	25	17	5	5	85	20	63	45	222	189	491	5,129	1,464	6,593
Southern ...	400	1,785	23,361	4,462	116	168	2,166	543	—	—	—	—	283	271	993	799	2,224	25,527	5,998	31,525
Northern ...	62	372	4,022	706	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	21	38	95	83	410	4,022	801	4,823
North-Western ...	607	6,250	101,065	13,385	—	—	—	—	1	3	55	10	100	564	1,256	708	6,817	101,120	14,651	115,771
North-Central ...	13	32	640	96	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	5	15	33	640	101	741
Uva	105	333	3,528	909	—	—	—	—	6	9	95	32	37	45	155	148	387	3,623	1,096	4,719
Fees for tracings, &c. ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2,719	2,719
Total ...	2,142	15,962	253,073	34,983	125	170	2,191	560	90	202	2,197	625	713	1,446	4,189	3,070	17,780	257,461	43,076	300,537

A 1.—Lands alienated and Moneys received from Sales under Sir Henry Ward's Minute, for 1887.

Province.	Alienated during 1887.						Instalments paid for Lands alienated during 1887.				Recoveries on account of Lands alienated previously to 1887.				Total Receipts in Instalments and Fees.	
	Lots.	Extent.					Amount.		Fees.		Amount.		Fees.			
	No.	A.	R.	P.			Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Central ...	—		—				—		—		126	75	13	12½	139	87½
Western ...	—		—				—		—		358	48	35	0	393	48
Eastern ...	61	567	2	5			2,688	50	362	1	14,838	38	1,800	2	19,688	91
Southern ...	16	64	3	30			203	0	43	79	119	0	28	75	394	54
Northern ...	—		—				—		—		—		—		—	
North-Western ...	5	72	3	23			131	60	178	50	52	61½	6	87	369	58½
North-Central ...	147	1,087	3	23			3,115	0	100	82	4,121	35	838	50	8,175	67
Uva ...	19	21	0	19			58	56	15	12	311	5	80	32	465	5
Total ...	284	1,814	1	20			6,196	66	700	24	19,927	62½	2,802	58½	29,627	11

B.—Abstract of Lands alienated from the Crown to Europeans and Natives in 1887.

Province.	Europeans.								Natives.							
	Lots.	Extent.			Amount and Fees.		Average Rate per Acre.		Lots.	Extent.			Amount and Fees.		Average Rate per Acre.	
	No.	A.	R.	P.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	No.	A.	R.	P.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Central ...	52	519	3	2·75	6,549	46	12	60	80	385	2	3·50	3,663	91	9	50
Western ...	36	2,780	3	6·48	63,482	62	22	82	960	3,732	2	29·25	59,951	33	16	6
Eastern ...	3	40	1	1	500	90	12	52	186	450	2	33	6,092	30	13	51
Southern...	1	13	2	20	176	0	12	57	798	2,210	3	17	31,349	44	14	18
Northern...	2	262	0	27	2,988	60	11	40	81	147	1	36	1,834	70	12	45
N.-Western	39	253	1	32	3,261	30	12	87	669	6,563	0	6·75	112,508	96	17	14
N.-Central	—	—			—		—		15	33	0	6	741	50	22	46
Uva ...	34	218	3	21	2,874	50	13	14	114	168	1	14	1,844	87	10	96
Total ...	167	4,088	3	30·23	79,833	38	19	52	2,903	13,691	2	25·50	217,987	1	15	92

C.—Return of Preliminary Plans forwarded to Government Agents during 1887.

Province.	No. of Preliminary Plans.	No. of Lots.		Total Number of Lots.	Extent in Acres.						Total.		
		Crown.	Claim.		Crown.			Claim.					
					A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.
Central ...	107	224	426	650	1,103	3	24·10	812	1	3·03	1,916	0	27·13
Western ...	532	1,962	4,053	6,015	20,131	3	21·05	15,719	3	30·19	35,851	3	11·24
Eastern ...	59	187	20	207	1,664	1	25	22	0	37	1,686	2	22
Southern ...	179	722	823	1,545	2,671	3	21	1,077	3	26	3,749	3	7
Northern ...	142	569	16	585	1,293	0	27·88	32	2	18	1,325	3	5·88
North-Western ...	105	532	932	1,464	11,469	1	11·18	1,774	2	2·02	13,243	3	13·20
North-Central ...	133	243	6	249	1,946	0	10	15	1	31	1,961	2	1
Uva ...	24	133	57	190	857	3	31·37	86	2	31	944	2	22·37
Total ...	1,281	4,572	6,333	10,905	41,138	2	11·58	19,541	2	18·24	60,680	0	29 82

D.—Return of Title Plans forwarded to Government Agents during 1887.

Province.	Plans.	Sets of Three.	Extent in Acres.		
			A.	R.	P.
Central ...	693	231	1,070	1	26·48
Western ...	2,949	983	9,467	0	28·33
Eastern ...	714	238	900	0	32
Southern ...	2,019	673	2,097	3	7·03
Northern ...	357	119	574	1	29·50
North-Western ...	2,373	791	5,864	2	35·81
North-Central ...	336	112	564	3	30·11
Uva ...	300	100	404	0	10·12
Total ...	9,741	3,247	20,943	2	39·38

E.—Expenditure of the Department for 1887.

	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Fixed salaries	67,630 6	
Provisional salaries	199,026 82	
Allowances	520 75	
Revenue services	101,914 84	
Miscellaneous	1,387 81	
Transport	17,112 98	
Rent	1,109 92	
		388,703 18
Miscellaneous work, including Great Triangulation, Irrigation Surveys, Railway Surveys, Waterworks, Town Surveys, Levelling, Defining Old Title Plan Boundaries, &c.	93,552 88	
Meteorological observatories and instruments, including salaries paid out of General Vote ...	4,243 9	
Instruments	4,529 36	
Lithography, including salaries paid out of General Vote	4,190 13	
		106,515 46
Total ...		282,187 72

F.—Abstract of Crown Lands Sold, Revenue and Expenditure, and Title Deed Plans issued from 1833 to 1887.

Period.	Land sold and settled.		Revenue from Land Sales, including Fees.	Expenditure.	Expenditure in excess of Revenue.	Revenue in excess of Expenditure.	Title Plans issued in Triplicate.	
	Lots.	Extent.					Sets.	Extent.
	No.	Acres.	£	£	£	£	No.	Acres.
1833 to 1843 ...	2,693	267,373	142,758	Combined with Civil Engineer's Dept.	—	—	8,893	371,397
1844 ...	71	7,703	18,270		—	—	479	42,027
1845 ...	329	19,450	31,488		—	—	970	41,364
1846 ...	200	3,590	12,103	4,533	—	7,570	206	4,239
1847 ...	180	4,508	6,496	4,785	—	1,711	101	2,210
1848 ...	88	2,761	4,672	4,711	89	—	85	4,977
1849 ...	82	786	2,265	7,368	5,103	—	141	3,227
1850 ...	118	2,962	2,603	4,360	1,756	—	71	6,319
1851 ...	95	939	1,695	3,785	2,090	—	108	1,088
1852 ...	48	1,848	2,479	4,159	1,680	—	144	1,859
1853 ...	53	2,200	3,324	4,510	1,186	—	47	2,126
1854 ...	87	8,209	9,927	4,725	—	5,202	68	3,555
1855 ...	57	7,286	16,410	4,720	—	12,140	68	5,475
1856 ...	183	11,656	22,805	8,450	—	14,355	91	11,786
1857 ...	493	19,795	37,027	11,365	—	25,662	188	14,494
1858 ...	873	15,752	33,425	18,051	—	15,375	340	14,323
1859 ...	2,000	23,447	38,589	24,358	—	14,232	906	14,931
1860 ...	3,704	33,660	51,628	28,081	—	23,547	2,369	34,865
1861 ...	5,987	28,329	44,166	22,595	—	21,571	2,438	30,535
1862 ...	3,572	25,302	45,300	17,883	—	27,417	2,540	21,558
1863 ...	1,663	27,990	72,808	17,606	—	55,202	2,053	31,212
1864 ...	3,542	34,122	76,567	17,458	—	59,109	2,670	42,262
1865 ...	4,609	41,150	68,276	17,274	—	51,002	2,002	28,960
1866 ...	8,553	45,546	72,021	19,307	—	52,714	2,473	46,369
1867 ...	7,284	44,019	45,257	23,094	—	22,163	2,779	26,178
1868 ...	5,832	27,358	38,514	24,974	—	13,540	2,999	23,753
1869 .	6,321	37,369	57,964	25,820	—	32,144	3,043	22,305
1870 ...	6,074	31,781	57,226	25,146	—	32,080	2,771	22,700
1871 ...	5,609	40,853	70,580	26,099	—	44,481	3,555	32,144
1872 ..	5,223	47,445	69,563	25,916	—	43,652	5,854	59,046
1873 ...	4,973	54,541	103,089	27,438	—	75,651	4,760	55,588
1874 ...	5,940	41,429	108,484	27,556	—	80,928	4,896	36,361
1875 ...	4,349	54,274	65,203	28,747	—	36,456	4,426	62,495
1876 ...	3,819	38,052	117,122	20,204	—	86,918	3,237	35,100
1877 ...	5,184	34,164	148,570	35,331	—	13,239	3,470	31,610
1878 ...	3,544	30,976	133,513	37,038	—	96,475	3,130	35,465
1879 ...	4,282	26,742	72,500	36,726	—	35,774	3,077	27,496
1880 ...	4,878	31,619	65,186	38,584	—	26,658	3,339	34,542
1881 ...	6,286	26,818	43,466	37,418	—	6,048	3,706	21,716
1882 ...	5,200	22,446	35,197	37,308	2,111	—	4,144	22,299
1883 ...	6,060	25,099	33,081	35,585	2,507	—	3,225	19,355
1884 ...	4,236	21,943	41,685	35,637	—	6,048	3,973	16,160
1885 ..	3,504	22,085	38,182	36,948	—	1,234	3,840	28,117
1886 ...	3,687	20,460	41,861	37,587	—	4,274	3,301	18,821
1887 ...	3,070	17,780	33,016	38,870*	5,854	—	3,247	20,944

* Deduct £10,651 paid for Miscellaneous work, including Great Triangulation, Minor Triangulation, Topographical Surveys, Irrigation Surveys, Railway Surveys, Waterworks, Town Surveys, Levellings, Re-opening old Title Plan Boundaries, Meteorological Observatories and Instruments, Lithography, &c.

G.—Return of Field Surveyors' Progress and Cost of Work during 1887.

Name of Surveyor.	No. of Lots.	Extent. Crown.	Extent. Claim.	Extent. Total.	Salary.	Revenue Services.	Contingent.	Travelling.	Total.	Rate per Acre.	Average Extent of Lots.	Survey Fees.	Remarks.
		A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	A. R. P.	Rs. c.	
WESTERN PROVINCE.													
P. D. Warren ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Office Assistant to the Hon. the Surveyor-General.
G. H. Symonds ...	—	—	—	—	8,000 0	873 65	66 27	1,629 3	10,568 95	—	—	—	First Chief Surveyor, Western Province.
H. L. Ward ...	4	261 1 13	—	261 1 13	486 9	137 61	—	37 95	661 65	2 52½	65 1 15	399 0	Surveying applications, lots under and above 100 acres.
					382 98	91 74	—	69 90	544 62	—	—	—	Reporting on lands at Tuḍugala, Badugama, and Warakágoḍa, &c. (See also Eastern Province.)
									1,206 27				
E. F. Vansittart ...	129	90 1 9	124 0 5	214 1 14	3,642 52	1,172 92	12 25	485 41	5,313 10	24 71	1 2 5	691 50	Surveying applications, &c., lots under 100 acres. Plans of 55 lots received too late, and not credited to this year. Very costly work, and not much of it. (See also Central Province.)
C. H. Allen ...	—	—	—	—	49 32	18 0	—	—	67 32	—	—	—	Colombo Town Surveys.
					86 98	27 0	—	8 55	122 53	—	—	—	Training, examining new Surveyors, and examining and reporting on irrigation question near Pérádeniya.
					2,613 58	0 50	5 0	157 50	2,776 58	—	—	—	Superintending Trigonometrical, Meteorological, and Lithographic Departments, and in Colombo office. Acting as Chief Surveyor, Southern Province.
					221 40	—	—	—	221 40	—	—	—	On leave. (See also Southern Province.)
									3,187 83				
C. C. M. Fyers ...	122	6,157 0 15	—	6,157 0 15	2,567 66	1,686 35	27 93	—	4,281 94	0 69	74 3 1	7,619 10	General survey of villages, lots under and above 100 acres. Very good and cheap work.
					1,547 40	277 10	—	404 26	2,228 76	—	—	—	Superintending general survey of villages, instructing assistants, defining boundaries, and sub-dividing old lots, &c.
					88 54	57 50	—	160 51	306 55	—	—	—	Travelling when changing station.
									6,817 25				
J. L. Hampton ...	16	52 3 28	5 1 19	58 1 7	232 36	121 8	—	—	353 44	6 0	3 2 23	165 0	Surveying applications, lots under 100 acres.
					549 89	264 94	—	51 72	866 55	—	—	—	Opening title plan boundaries, sub-dividing old lots, and instructing Factory apprentices.
					122 21	43 25	63 88	61 73	291 7	—	—	—	Travelling when changing station.
					142 10	—	—	—	142 10	—	—	—	Sick and leave. (See also Eastern and Central Provinces.)
									1,653 16				

H. P. Lovering ...	18	151 3 34	—	151 3 34	416 65	360 5	5 0	—	781 70	5 14	8 1 30	376 10	Surveying applications, lots under 100 acres.
	158	—	211 2 29	211 2 29	727 75	229 4	—	—	956 79	4 51	1 1 14	752 50	Surveying lands irrigable under Baṭugedara channel.
					22 22	4 0	—	—	26 22	—	—	—	Surveying encroachments in Ratnapura town.
					22 22	73 64	—	151 94	247 80	—	—	—	Travelling when changing station.
					394 43	—	—	—	394 43	—	—	—	Sick and leave.
									2,406 94				(See also North-Western Province.)
F. W. B Campbell	153	27 0 14	146 1 33	173 2 7	667 14	359 59	—	—	1,026 73	5 90	1 0 21	638 0	Surveying applications, lots under 100 acres.
					110 71	60 56	—	—	171 27	—	—	—	Identifying lands previously surveyed and attending to Government Agent's questions.
									1,198 0				(See also Central and Eastern Provinces.)
C. P. Martinus ...	53	2,219 3 18	77 0 7	2,296 3 25	551 25	283 60	—	—	834 85	0 36	43 1 14	3,404 30	Surveying applications, lots under and above 100 acres. This includes work done in 1886 (plans completed this year). Good work, and cheap.
					393 75	391 88	6 0	27 34	818 97	—	—	—	General survey of villages (plans incomplete).
					1,583 75	572 11	9 50	43 75	2,209 11	—	—	—	Defining old boundaries, reporting upon encroachments, and re-survey of title plans, &c.
					665 0	—	—	—	665 0	—	—	—	On leave.
									4,527 93				
G. E. Leembruggen	216	8,052 1 13	—	8,052 1 13	3,097 50	1,809 20½	20 0	8 75	4,935 45½	0 61	37 1 4	12,462 0	General survey of villages, lots under and above 100 acres. Excellent work, and very cheap.
					96 25	—	—	—	96 25	—	—	—	On leave.
									5,031 70½				
R. W. J. Crabbe ...	9	137 1 18	—	137 1 18	236 25	116 37	—	—	352 62	2 55	15 1 2	294 40	Surveying applications, lots under 100 acres. Good work, and cheap.
	46	7,013 0 38	—	7,013 0 38	1,960 0	1,343 50½	15 0	3 50	3,322 0½	0 47	152 1 33	8,650 20	General survey of villages, lots under and above 100 acres.
					743 75	495 60	8 72	137 37	1,385 44	—	—	—	Triangulations.
					35 0	17 49	22 50	29 41	104 40	—	—	—	Travelling when changing station.
					218 75	—	—	—	218 75	—	—	—	Sick and leave.
									5,383 21½				
T. F. Ondaatje ...	133	281 2 34	—	281 2 34	1,875 0	812 4	—	10 50	2,697 54	9 49½	2 0 18	866 50	Surveying applications, lots under 100 acres.
					120 0	44 0	—	—	164 0	—	—	—	Surveying 7½ miles of Pelawatta-ela, ½ mile of Héwessa-ela, 4¾ miles of road leading from Pelawatta to Pitigala and from Baduraliya to Kukulu kóralé.
					255 0	85 25	—	—	340 25	—	—	—	Surveying reservations and identifying applications.
					60 0	—	—	116 54	176 54	—	—	—	Travelling when changing station.
					322 50	—	—	—	322 50	—	—	—	Sick and leave.
									3,700 83				

Name of Surveyor.	No. of Lots.	Extent. Crown.	Extent. Claim.	Extent. Total.	Salary.	Revenue Services.	Contingent.	Travelling.	Total.	Rate per Acre.	Average Extent of Lots.	Survey Fees.	Remarks.
		A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	A. R. P.	Rs. c.	
J. W. Davidson ...	239	6,344 0 1	—	6,344 0 1	2,360 60	1,530 38	2 50	26 37	3,919 85	0 61	26 2 7	10,601 90	General survey of villages, lots under and above 100 acres. Excellent work, and very cheap.
					95 0	59 6	—	—	154 6	—	—	—	Defining boundary of Police Limits of Rakwána, &c.
					216 88	192 87	—	—	409 75	—	—	—	Triangulations.
					89 37	—	—	—	89 37	—	—	—	Serving as juror.
					65 0	41 68	—	30 37	137 5	—	—	—	Travelling when changing station
					97 50	—	—	—	97 50	—	—	—	On leave.
									4,807 58				
A. I Senewiratna...	190	2,615 1 12	99 3 21	2,715 0 33	1,725 0	1,182 47	5 39	77 0	2,989 86	1 10	14 1 7	4,481 60	Surveying applications and villages, lots under and above 100 acres. Good work.
					22 50	120 0	—	—	142 50	—	—	—	Triangulations.
					232 50	122 2	—	—	354 52	—	—	—	Surveying Mágal-gaṇga, Miyanówita-oya, and village boundaries (plans incomplete).
					37 50	—	—	26 69	64 19	—	—	—	Travelling when changing station.
					551 25	—	—	—	551 25	-	—	—	Sick and leave.
									4,102 32				
G. De Saram ...	60	5,012 1 28	—	5,012 1 28	1,812 50	1,630 33	13 10	25 71	3,481 64	0 69	83 2 6	5,401 90	General survey of villages, lots under and above 100 acres. Good work.
	4	20 3 37	—	20 3 37	237 50	228 14	—	30 62	496 26	23 63	5 0 39	60 0	Surveying applications, lots under 100 acres. (Isolated lots in different villages.)
					106 25	49 0	—	—	155 25	—	—	—	Surveying Kaṭawanella bridge approaches, &c.
					125 0	—	—	—	125 0	—	—	—	On leave.
									4,258 15				
H. C Berwick ...	206	541 0 38	369 3 5	911 0 3	1,766 24	1,364 54	—	45 50	3,176 28	3 48	4 1 27	2,529 97	Surveying applications, lots under 100 acres.
	27	495 1 2	683 0 22	1,178 1 24	325 0	106 84	—	19 56	451 40	0 38	43 2 23	1,856 80	General survey of villages, lots under and above 100 acres.
					43 75	27 81	—	—	71 56	—	—	—	Surveying Olaboduwa, Padukka, and Diyagama roads, 9 miles.
					105 0	65 98	—	—	170 98	—	—	—	Identifying applications and title plans, &c.
					18 75	8 68	4 12	25 4	56 59	—	—	—	Travelling when changing station.
					131 25	—	—	—	131 25	—	—	—	On leave.
									4,058 6				
F. H. Leembruggen	17	248 3 29	—	248 3 29	425 0	242 72	22 50	—	690 22	2 77	14 2 22	442 20	Surveying applications, lots under and above 100 acres.
					62 50	58 50	—	—	121 0	—	—	—	Sub-dividing into eight lots the cemetery at Ratnapura, and re-opening old title plan boundaries, &c.
					6 25	2 75	—	35 25	44 25	—	—	—	Travelling when changing station.
					343 74	—	—	—	343 74	—	—	—	Sick.
									1,199 21				(See also Southern and North-Western Provinces.)

V. A. Van Cuylenburg.	172	881 3 25	246 3 1	1,128 2 26	1,632 48	1,176 18	3 0	21 82	2,833 48	2 50	6 2 9	2,500 90	Surveying applications, &c., lots under and above 100 acres.
					190 0	156 4	—	—	346 4	—	—	—	Surveying Mitirigala-oya, Di-ela, 9½ miles, and new road from Pattalagedara to Kaleliya, 4½ miles.
					135 0	110 16	—	—	245 16	—	—	—	Cancelling applications, defining old boundaries, and surveying pattu boundary, &c.
									3,424 68				
J. E. Carey ...	24	83 0 6	—	83 0 6	360 0	423 75	2 25	11 28	797 28	9 60	3 1 33	239 0	Surveying applications, lots under 100 acres. Work too dear. (See also North-Central Province.)
J. C. Stewart ...	126	983 2 12	64 1 10	1,047 3 22	1,235 62	1,147 44	—	—	2,383 6	2 27	8 1 10	2,435 10	Surveying applications, lots under 100 acres.
					20 0	25 57	—	—	45 57	—	—	—	Surveying 7 miles of road from near the 27th milepost on the road leading from Colombo to Avisáwélla to near the 7th milepost on the road to Labugama.
					556 87½	538 56	—	30 72	1,126 15½	—	—	—	Identifying applications and surveying reservation, &c.
					11 25	12 44	—	28 0	51 69	—	—	—	Travelling when changing station.
					96 87½	—	—	—	96 87½	—	—	—	Sick and leave.
									3,703 35				
D A Tambiah ...	333	1.069 1 14	58 0 15	1,127 1 29	1,440 0	1,167 53½	—	28 65½	2,636 19	2 33½	3 1 21	3,116 70	Surveying applications, lots under 100 acres.
					15 0	14 0	—	—	29 0	—	—	—	Surveying new road from Aturugiriya junction to Morakętiya Kottáwa junction, 3½ miles.
					305 0	263 42½	—	22 49½	590 92	—	—	—	Surveying kóralé boundary, defining boundaries of title plans, and identifying applications.
					65 0	—	—	—	65 0	—	—	—	On leave.
									3,321 11				
J. J. Fernando ...	65	—	2,289 2 30	2,289 2 30	938 75	851 90	—	36 70	1,827 35	0 79	35 0 36	3,717 0	General survey of villages, lots under and above 100 acres.
					45 0	—	—	—	45 0	—	—	—	Attending court to give evidence in a case.
					112 50	81 16	42 25	51 0	286 91	—	—	—	Travelling when changing station. (See also North-Western Province.)
									2,159 26				
J. W. Robertson ...	365	521 3 4	277 3 31	799 2 35	602 0	745 33	11 40	5 19	1,363 92	1 74½	2 0 30	2,472 10	Surveying applications, lots under 100 acres.
					3 0	3 89	—	—	6 89	—	—	—	Surveying new road at the 16th milepost in Kahatuduwa, 2½ miles.
					90 0	124 98	—	—	214 98	—	—	—	Surveying kóralé boundary, encroachments, &c. (See also North-Central Province.)
									1,585 79				
F. N. Payne ...	35	243 0 26	4 0 20	247 1 6	285 0	336 70	—	—	621 70	2 50	7 0 10	446 40	Surveying applications, lots under and above 100 acres.
					234 0	300 0	11 25	—	545 25	—	—	—	Surveying kóralé boundaries.
					6 0	—	—	11 24	17 24	—	—	—	Travelling when changing station.
					207 0	—	—	—	207 0	—	—	—	Sick and leave. (See also Central Province.)
									1,391 19				

Name of Surveyor.	No. of Lots.	Extent. Crown. A. R. P.	Extent. Claim. A. R. P.	Extent. Total. A. R. P.	Salary. Rs. c.	Revenue Services. Rs. c.	Contingent. Rs. c.	Travelling. Rs. c.	Total. Rs. c.	Rate per Acre. Rs. c.	Average Extent of Lots. A. R. P.	Survey Fees. Rs. c.	Remarks.
R. S. Templeton ...	—	—	—	—	234 0	275 35	6 50	—	515 85	—	—	—	General survey of villages (plans incomplete).
C. O. Van Dort ...	42	67 1 0	111 1 15	178 2 15	111 0	126 8	—	13 0	250 8	1 39	4 1 0	500 0	Surveying applications, lots under 100 acres.
					75 0	98 74	—	—	173 74	—	—	—	Surveying Gurugoda-oya and attending to Government Agent's questions.
					24 0	24 49	12 21	52 70	113 40	—	—	—	Travelling when changing station
					48 0	—	—	—	48 0	—	—	—	Sick.
									585 22				(See also North-Central Province.)
C. H. Oldham ...	43	790 0 8	—	790 0 8	482 0	705 58	—	—	1,187 58	1 50	18 1 19	1,225 60	General survey of villages, lots under and above 100 acres.
					18 0	30 95	18 49	—	67 44	—	—	—	Triangulation in connection with general survey of villages.
					20 0	23 35½	—	94 58	137 93½	—	—	—	Travelling when changing station.
					180 0	209 47	—	25 87	415 34	—	—	—	Surveying Walawé-ganga, about 5 miles.
					69 0	56 22½	—	—	125 22½	—	—	—	In Colombo office under instruction.
									1,933 52				(See also North-Central Province.)
R. C. S. Pole ...	—	—	—	—	69 0	51 15	—	—	120 15	—	—	—	In Colombo office under instruction. (See also North-Central Province.)
B. W. Gray ...	—	—	—	—	63 0	84 21	—	—	147 21	—	—	—	In Colombo office under instruction. (See also North-Central Province.)
W. B. De Saram ...	—	—	—	—	183 0	163 90	0 50	—	347 40	—	—	—	Surveying roads in the vicinity of Henaratgoda (plans incomplete).
	3005			49,133 0 19					89,452 51				
CENTRAL PROVINCE.													
D. G. Mantell ...	—	—	—	—	2,028 5	299 88	201 2	367 9	2,896 4	—	—	—	Chief Surveyor. Supervising surveys in the Central Province and in Uva, visiting Assistants, examining encroachments, surveying and reporting on lands required for public purposes, &c.
					2,960 45	—	—	—	2,960 45	—	—	—	On leave to Europe.
									5,856 49				
F. H. Grinlinton ...	—	—	—	—	2,772 26	545 80	188 49	516 14	4,022 69	—	—	—	Chief Surveyor. Supervising surveys, visiting Assistants, surveying and reporting on encroachments and on lands to be acquired for public purposes, and surveying scattered applications.
						3 95	—	—	3 95	—	—	—	Triangulation.
					249 90	214 30	4 62	70 98	539 80	—	—	—	Surveying boundary between Central and Western Provinces.
					16 66	—	—	42 74	59 40	—	—	—	Changing station from Kurunégala to Kandy. (See also North-Western Province.) Sick and leave for short periods charged against work.
									4,625 84				

E. F. Vanaittart ...	42	160 0 0	103 0 0	263 0 0	779 54	302 20	—	117 0	1,198 74	4 55	6 1 2	620 70	Applications.
					416 66	134 10	—	35 0	585 76	—	—	—	Survey of Kabaragala-Kayikawala road, Kabaragala-Rattoṭa road, and Kabaragala-Laggala road.
					161 28	—	—	—	161 28	—	—	—	On leave. (See also Western Province.)
									1,945 78				
J. L. Hampton ...	139	73 0 0	1,309 0 0	1,382 0 0	1,413 48	764 55	31 83	—	2,209 86	1 59	9 3 30	2,830 80	Surveying Kehelgamuwa valley.
					488 70	210 85	14 34	51 2	764 91	—	—	—	Levelling and reporting on the Kehelgamuwa valley irrigation scheme.
					54 30	20 55	—	56 13	130 98	—	—	—	Changing station, Kalutara to Ambagamuwa. (See also Western and Eastern Provinces.)
									3,105 75				
J. W. Viner ...	40	180 0 0	1 0 0	181 0 0	1,204 16	506 49	—	—	1,710 65	9 45	4 2 4	392 0	Applications. About 200 acres additional surveyed, but plans were not received in time.
					362 30	112 87	20 42	80 91	576 50	—	—	—	Miscellaneous. Surveying lands required for public purposes, defining title plan boundaries, identifying applications for land already surveyed, surveying and identifying railway reserves to be leased out.
					158 91	—	—	—	158 91	—	—	—	Sick and leave.
					99 32	35 30	12 39	81 23	228 24	—	—	—	Changing station, Puttalam to Gampola. (See also North-Western and North-Central Provinces.)
									2,674 30				
F. W. B. Campbell...	115	362 0 0	416 0 0	778 0 0	1,809 65	1,033 52	—	—	2,843 17	3 65	6 3 2	1,996 15	Applications.
					671 92	431 60	—	84 0	1,187 52	—	—	—	Miscellaneous. Surveying lands required for public purposes, surveying stream reservations and defining them on the ground, re-opening the boundaries of old surveys, amending boundaries at the request of the Government Agent.
					18 84	9 74	16 83	113 24	158 65	—	—	—	Changing station, Negombo to Mátalé. Sick and leave for short periods charged against work. (See also Western and Eastern Provinces.)
									4,189 34				
H. Erskine ...	92	484 0 0	2,691 0 0	3,175 0 0	2,374 18	1,076 18	16 10	101 87	3,568 33	1 12	34 2 2	5,230 0	Applications.
					249 55	112 58	—	—	362 13	—	—	—	Miscellaneous. Defining title plan boundaries, examining alleged encroachments, surveying gansabháwa road, &c.
					113 49	—	—	—	113 49	—	—	—	Amban-gaṇga irrigation survey, completing report and plans.
					335 65	416 41	12 75	95 12	859 93	—	—	—	Triangulation, erected five new stations, and restored twenty-three old ones.
					92 90	40 0	—	112 31	245 21	—	—	—	Changing station, Nálanda to Polgaswatta, Western Province.
					123 70	—	—	—	123 70	—	—	—	Leave. Sick and leave for short periods charged against work.
									5,272 79				

Name of Surveyor.	No. of Lots.	Extent. Crown.	Extent. Claim.	Extent. Total.	Salary.	Revenue Services.	Contingent.	Travelling.	Total.	Rate per Acre.	Average Extent of Lots.	Survey Fees.	Remarks.
		A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	A. R. P.	Rs. c.	
J. H. Harris ...	10	95 0 0	7 0 0	102 0 0	253 75	248 79	—	—	502 54	4 94	10 0 32	230 70	Applications.
					35 0	19 76	—	—	54 76	—	—	—	Miscellaneous Identifying applications for land previously surveyed, and defining boundaries of old surveys.
					17 50	9 88	—	—	27 38	—	—	—	Surveying Crown land to be leased out.
					1,548 75	704 26	—	—	2,253 1	—	—	—	Irrigation surveys in Walapané Division.
					988 75	522 40	—	51 25	1,562 40	—	—	—	Surveying boundary between Central and North-Western Provinces
									4,400 9				Sick and leave for short periods charged against work. (See also Southern Province.)
L. Shipton ...	303	590 0 0	439 0 0	1,029 0 0	1,270 0	1,023 29½	—	44 25	2,337 54½	2 27	4 0 31	2,618 10	Applications.
					65 0	82 22	3 0	13 50	163 72	—	—	—	Miscellaneous Identification of applications for lands previously surveyed, defining boundaries, examining alleged encroachments, &c.
					80 0	95 60	—	—	175 60	—	—	—	Surveying Hulu-gaṇga.
					60 0	71 68	10 62	69 82	212 12	—	—	—	Changing station, Nugetęnna to Wilson's Bungalow.
					95 0	—	—	—	95 0	—	—	—	Sick and leave. (See also Province of Uva.)
									2,983 98½				
F. N. Payne ...	—	—	—	—	168 0	180 0	—	—	348 0	—	—	—	Miscellaneous. Defining boundaries of Crown lands and surveying new roads and buildings at Nuwara Eliya.
					12 0	—	—	49 27	61 27	—	—	—	Changing station, Kalutara to Nuwara Eliya and Nuwara Eliya to Colombo.
					67 50	28 12½	—	—	95 62½	—	—	—	Sick and leave. (See also Western Province.)
									504 89½				
B. W. Gray ...	20	—	209 0 0	209 0 0	279 0	456 40	—	—	735 40	3 51	10 1 32	432 20	Surveying Kehelgamuwa valley.
					12 0	14 76	24 97	42 57	94 30	—	—	—	Changing station, North-Central Province to Central Province. (See also Western and North-Central Provinces.)
	759			7,119 0 0					829 70				
NORTHERN PROVINCE.													
R. B. Campbell ...	19	45 3 2	—	45 3 2	531 81	186 76	—	85 0	803 57	17 46	2 1 25	140 0	Surveying applications, lots under 100 acres (scattered and isolated lots). (See also North-Central Province.)
J. W. Viner ...	199	267 2 0	—	267 2 0	936 68	375 32	—	—	1,312 0	4 89	1 1 15	803 50	Surveying lots irrigable under Vavuniya-Vilákulam and Iratperiyakulam tanks, and taking levels over same.
					92 44	34 39	2 48	120 83	250 14	—	—	—	Travelling when changing station.
					79 46	33 16	—	43 75	156 37	—	—	—	Identifying lots and surveying in Chinnachettikulam (plans incomplete during 1887). (See also Central and North-Western Provinces.)
									1,718 51				

C. Speldewinde ...	398	934 0 6	—	984 0 6	1,577 49	1,362 43	4 0	85 12	3,029 4	3 7	2 1 35	2,913 10	Surveying applications, &c., lots under 100 acres.
					175 0	122 27	4 0	—	301 27	—	—	—	Surveying road from Katirankulam to Parapokandan, Coast road from Silvaturai to Marachchankadu, road from Kankankulam to Chekkadipulavu, road from Puvarasankulam to Panankaman and from Puvarasankulam to Pallamputti.
					55 0	50 16	—	35 87	141 3	—	—	—	Travelling when changing station.
					75 0	—	—	—	75 0	—	—	—	On leave.
	616			1,297 1 8					3,546 34				
									6,068 42				
SOUTHERN PROVINCE.													
T. J. Reynolds ...	8	28 1 7	1 0 8	29 1 15	1,906 70	308 47	10 0	292 50	2,517 67	—	—	86 0	In charge of the Province. Surveying, identifying applications, &c.
C. H. Allen ...	81	88 1 14	32 3 30	121 1 4	357 50	279 10	—	140 0	776 60	6 42	1 1 39	415 0	Surveying applications.
					13 0	14 80	—	60 12	87 92	—	—	—	Travelling from Colombo to Galle.
					52 0	26 98	—	—	78 98	—	—	—	Irrigation survey: surveying Dedduwa lake outlets.
					1,222 46	280 95½	—	178 25	1,681 66½	—	—	—	In charge of the Province, visiting Assistants, identifying applications, defining old boundaries, and surveying Cotton garden in Galle, &c (See also Western Province.)
									2,625 16½				
S. Snowden ...	50	109 2 31	2 0 28	111 3 19	639 43	160 59½	—	—	800 2½	7 14	2 0 38	350 0	Surveying applications.
					1,290 64	1,010 52½	1 12	15 75	2,318 3½	—	—	—	Surveying Gin-gaṅga (Gindura river).
					2,107 21	692 37	3 75	9 62	2,812 95	—	—	—	Surveying the Western and Southern Province boundary.
					78 94	—	—	—	78 94	—	—	—	On leave.
									6,009 95				
W. H. Thornton ...	15	18 2 4	—	18 2 4	1,151 90	736 43	10 12	273 19	2,171 64	114 26	1 1 0	62 50	Surveying applications.
					614 49	—	—	—	614 49	—	—	—	Sick and leave, 52 days.
					962 88	322 60	—	25 99	1,311 47	—	—	—	Irrigation survey: surveying Hikkaduwa lake and levelling for Karijjapiṭiya scheme.
					741 2	319 65	—	75 66	1,136 33	—	—	—	Miscellaneous. Subdivision of old surveys.
									5,233 93				
Geo. Waddell ...	167	403 2 9	57 1 38	461 0 7	2,408 61	1,272 28½	15 0	161 10	3,856 99½	8 36	2 3 2	1,348 90	Surveying applications.
					70 9	36 8	—	101 0	207 17	—	—	—	Viharahena road extension.
					721 67	385 64	—	90 2	1,197 33	—	—	—	Surveying Dondra Head lighthouse, outline of paddy fields, identifying applications, and defining boundaries of old title plans.
					8 75	—	—	87 74	96 49	—	—	—	Travelling from Colombo to Galle.
									5,357 98½				

Name of Surveyor.	No. of Lots.	Extent. Crown.	Extent. Claim.	Extent. Total.	Salary.	Revenue Services.	Contingent.	Travelling.	Total.	Rate per Acre.	Average Extent of Lots.	Survey Fees.	Remarks.
		A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	A. R. P.	Rs. c.	
T. M. Mantéll ...	263	1,214 1 26	1 3 8	1,216 0 34	2,707 22	1,278 35½	12 29	57 25	4,055 11½	3 33	4 2 19	3,285 40	Surveying applications.
					52 50	28 56	—	12 25	93 31	—	—	—	Surveying path in Nakulugamuwa village.
					437 59	192 36	—	41 25	671 20	—	—	—	Defining boundaries of old title plans, identifying applications, &c.
									4,819 62½				
J. Hardy Harris ...	25	31 2 23	—	31 2 23	322 88	141 21	—	—	464 9	14 50	1 1 4	112 50	Surveying applications.
					27 12	—	—	148 65	175 77	—	—	—	Travelling from Colombo to Galle.
									639 86				
F. H. Leembruggen	43	193 0 11	2 1 19	195 1 30	687 50	379 10	—	52 2	1,118 62	5 74	4 2 6	493 0	Surveying applications. (See also Western and North-Western Provinces.)
J. S. Ball ...	21	242 0 26	58 1 34	300 2 20	177 0	189 80	10 35	—	377 15	1 25	14 1 6	696 90	Surveying applications.
					6 0	—	—	18 92	24 92	—	—	—	Travelling from Colombo to Galle. (See also North-Central Province.)
									402 7				
R. H. Canagasaby...	33	53 1 26	9 3 10	63 0 36	183 0	165 93	4 44	—	353 37	5 60	1 3 25	200 0	Surveying applications. (52 lots received too late to be credited for this year.)
	706			2,549 0 32									
EASTERN PROVINCE.													
H. L. Ward ...	7	80 2 38	—	80 2 38	648 20	256 60	28 5	154 97	1,087 82	13 43	11 2 5	197 50	Surveying applications. (3 lots of large area received too late to be credited for this year.)
					103 11	—	—	167 67	270 78	—	—	—	Travelling from Kalutara to Batticaloa.
					2,651 78	681 28	1 75	361 9	3,695 90	—	—	—	In charge of the Province, inspecting Surveyors', &c.
					44 19	11 31	—	3 45	58 95	—	—	—	Miscellaneous. Defining boundaries of new cemetery and two resthouses in Batticaloa.
					176 76	—	—	13 80	190 56	—	—	—	Sick and leave.
					883 80	308 61	—	192 80	1,385 21	—	—	—	Surveying Diyaritta Arapotawewa. (See also Western Province.)
									6,689 22				
F. F. Meerwald ...	47	472 0 38	4 0 0	476 0 38	2,808 75	1,386 92	6 89	3 37	4,205 93	8 83	10 0 20	1,189 90	Surveying applications.
					17 50	8 90	—	—	26 40	—	—	—	Two and a quarter miles of road from Pankudaveli to Badulla road.
					35 0	17 93	—	—	52 93	—	—	—	Subdividing old lots, cutting out new burial ground.
					332 50	171 58	—	36 75	540 83	—	—	—	Surveying and levelling Holike tank.
									4,826 9				

O. Ohlmus ...	110	1,459 1 9	—	1,459 1 9	2,172 47½	958 13	2 50	31 50	3,164 60½	2 16	13 1 2	3,590 80	Surveying applications.
					185 62½	97 20	—	—	282 82½	—	—	—	Levelling 20¼ miles in Nadukádu pattu.
					110 0	57 60	—	—	167 60	—	—	—	Re-opening boundaries of old surveys and identifying applications.
									3,615 3				
J. L. Hampton ...	—	—	—	—	155 54	142 73	—	37 30	335 57	—	—	—	Triangulation : fixing and restoring a few stations.
					341 29	—	—	—	341 29	—	—	—	Plotting and completing Kandy-Trincomalee road.
					500 5	202 41	—	26 25	728 71	—	—	—	In charge of the Province and subdividing Mr. Fyers' Tampalakámam work. (See also Western Province.)
									1,405 57				
Burleigh Campbell	—	—	—	—	160 14	80 59	—	140 0	380 73	—	—	—	Taking soundings at Trincomalee harbour. (See also Western Province.)
T. N. Caldera ...	27	739 1 36	8 2 37	748 0 33	228 0	262 33	—	9 37	499 70	0 67	27 2 32	1,514 60	Surveying applications, very many large lots and 2 above 100 acres.
					18 0	32 93	13 0	48 20	112 21	—	—	—	Travelling from Anurádhapura to Batticaloa.
					30 0	—	—	—	30 0	—	—	—	Sick.
									641 91				
W. H. Thornton ...	—	—	—	—	610 50	95 80	—	—	677 59	—	—	—	Topographical survey.
	191			2,764 1 38									
NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCE.													
F. H. Grinlinton ...	—	—	—	—	2,060 8	253 64	132 80	488 53	2,935 5	—	—	—	Chief Surveyor : supervising surveys, visiting Assistants, and miscellaneous work.
	11	120 0 0	38 0 0	158 0 0	195 0	232 0	—	20 0	447 0	2 83	14 1 18	345 20	Surveying applications.
					15 0	75 15	—	—	90 15	—	—	—	Triangulation.
					375 0	139 35	54 25	196 18	764 78	—	—	—	Levelling from Kurunégala to Dambulla and reporting on errors in levels in the North-Central Province.
					105 0	35 70	3 60	60 0	204 30	—	—	—	Reporting on cost of Railway survey to Dambulla.
									4,441 28				Sick and leave for short periods charged against work. (See also Central Province.)
S. J. More ...	7	308 0 0	11 0 0	319 0 0	1,657 91	535 21	100 0	497 50	2,790 62	—	—	559 20	Acting Chief Surveyor : supervising surveys, visiting Assistants, surveying applications. (See also North-Central Province.)
H. P. Lovering ...	74	545 0 0	43 0 0	588 0 0	1,223 10	512 26	20 10	63 0	1,818 46	3 9	7 3 31	1,425 50	Applications.
					339 45	147 42	—	—	486 87	—	—	—	Miscellaneous. Re-opening boundaries of old surveys.
					854 10	301 97	3 0	40 0	1,199 7	—	—	—	Surveying lands required for opening "Compasspára" road.
									3,504 40				Sick and leave for short periods charged against work. (See also Western Province.)

Name of Surveyor.	No. of Lots.	Extent. Crown.	Extent. Claim.	Extent. Total.	Salary.	Revenue Service.	Contingent.	Travelling.	Total.	Rate per Acre.	Average Extent of Lots.	Survey Fees.	Remarks.
		A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	A. R. P.	Rs. c.	
R. B. Young ...	87	1,390 0 0	3 0 0	1,393 0 0	2,490 84	1,154 14	—	20 0	4,497 68	3 22	16 0 2	3,387 60	Applications.
					685 41	348 29	—	—	201 0	—	—	—	Miscellaneous.
					52 50	22 26	—	99 75	174 51	—	—	—	Travelling from Puttalam to Marawila and back.
					271 25	—	—	—	271 25	—	—	—	On leave.
									5,144 44				
J. W. Viner ...	29	338 0 0	175 0 0	513 0 0	463 59	172 76	—	35 0	671 35	1 30	17 2 30	1,135 20	Applications.
					19 86	7 1	—	—	26 87	—	—	—	Surveying portion of Puttalam-Chilaw road.
					79 46	28 0	10 0	66 66	184 12	—	—	—	Changing station, Vavuṇiyá-Viláṇkulam to Puttalam.
									882 34				(See also Central Province.)
J. G. Sisouw ...	207	3,692 0 0	223 0 0	3,915 0 0	2,552 76	1,070 81½	—	—	3,623 57½	0 93	18 3 26	7,185 0	Applications.
					70 0	37 4	0 80	44 25	152 9	—	—	—	Defining and surveying trace of a minor road from Madirankuli to Akkarai pattu.
					78 75	37 38	—	—	116 13	—	—	—	Miscellaneous.
					26 25	—	—	23 50	49 75	—	—	—	Changing station, Chilaw to Colombo.
					455 0	—	—	—	455 0	—	—	—	Sick and leave.
									4,396 54½				
N. D. Caldera ...	31	757 0 0	3 0 0	760 0 0	1,121 25	507 17	—	—	1,628 42	2 14	24 2 3	1,596 0	Applications. Plans of nine lots were not received in time to be credited this year. Sick and leave for short periods, charged against work. (See also Northern and North-Central Provinces.)
A. J. Misso ...	89	2,573 0 0	169 0 0	2,742 0 0	2,118 75	956 41	16 83	151 19	3,243 18	1 18	30 3 9	4,921 20	Applications.
					52 50	14 95	—	—	67 45	—	—	—	Changing station, Loluwagoḍa to Puttalam.
						19 85	—	—	19 85	—	—	—	Triangulation.
					105 0	23 37	—	—	128 37	—	—	—	Surveying Dandugama road.
					37 50	16 63½	—	—	54 13½	—	—	—	Defining boundaries of old surveys.
					45 0	8 91	—	—	53 91	—	—	—	Identifying applications for land previously surveyed, attending Court as witness for the Crown.
					322 50	—	—	—	322 50	—	—	—	Sick and leave.
									3,889 39½				
F. H. Lembruggen	29	260 0 0	—	260 0 0	462 50	252 39½	15 25	23 50	753 64½	2 90	8 3 34	685 80	Applications.
					50 0	27 36	—	—	77 36	—	—	—	Miscellaneous. Surveying additional lands required for "Compasspára" road, and amendment of boundaries of old surveys.
									831 0½				Sick and leave for short periods, charged against work. (See also Western and Southern (Provinces.)

J. J. Fernando ...	17	540 0 0	—	540 0 0	550 0	391 1	—	53 37	994 38	1 84	31 3 3	986 70	Applications.
					443 75	313 50½	12 0	—	769 25½	—	—	—	Survey of Mi-oya and Madagala road.
									1,763 63½				Sick and leave for short periods, charged against work. (See also Western Province.)
E. Wijeyesekere ...	—	—	—	—	141 0	241 23½	—	—	382 23½	—	—	—	Applications. Plans of eighty-one lots were not received in time to be credited this year.
					12 0	11 52	—	21 0	44 52	—	—	—	Changing station, Anurádhapura to Kurunégala.
					108 0	—	—	—	108 0	—	—	—	Sick and leave. (See also North-Central Province.)
NORTH-CENTRAL PROVINCE.	581			11,188 0 0					534 75½				
S. J. More ...	—	—	—	—	2,840 54	1,171 1	696 57	1,079 62	5,787 74	—	—	—	The Great Triangulation.
					262 22	—	—	—	262 22	—	—	—	On leave. (See also North-Western Province.)
									6,049 96				
J. J. O'Dowd ...	2	20 0 6	—	20 0 6	548 97	204 0	24 0	67 37	844 34	—	10 0 3	53 0	Visiting and instructing Assistants, surveying applications and pinpára from Galkulama to Kahatagahadigiliya and Sippukulam-Udiyankulam road, 15 miles.
					4,154 63	2,488 99	149 68	736 70	7,530 0	—	—	—	Irrigation surveys under Yóda-ela Kalawęwa and visiting and instructing Assistants, &c.
									8,374 34				
R. B Campbell ...	85	255 3 6	4 2 3	260 1 9	873 78	481 19	10 50	48 12	1,413 59	5 41½	3 0 10	727 0	Surveying applications, lots under 100 acres (scattered and isolated lots in 22 villages)
					984 24	175 0	—	80 37	1,239 61	—	—	—	Superintending Assistants
					867 47	341 31	—	39 37	1,248 15	—	—	—	Re-surveying of Kayinattama road, Yókalagalkulam pinpára, &c.
					233 38	154 75	—	76 12	464 25	—	—	—	Irrigation surveys under Basawakkulama and Tisawęwa, taking levels and cutting section lines, &c.
					212 92	—	—	—	212 92	—	—	—	Sick and leave. (See also Northern Province.)
									4,578 52				
N. D Caldera ...	—	—	—	—	1,395 0	1,487 78	90 50	57 75	3,031 3	—	—	—	The Great Triangulation.
					210 0	—	—	—	210 0	—	—	—	On leave. (See also North-Western Province.)
									3,241 3				
A. E. Maddock ...	10	40 2 36	—	40 2 36	34 35	27 0	—	—	61 35	1 49	4 0 11	116 0	Surveying applications, lots under 100 acres.
					2,080 69	1,598 20	—	14 25	3,693 14	—	—	—	Irrigation surveys under Kalawęwa Yóda-ela.
					265 0	—	—	—	265 0	—	—	—	On leave.
									4,019 49				
J. E. Carey ...	23	159 2 30	—	159 2 30	295 0	275 70	—	—	570 70	3 56	6 3 30	433 20	Surveying applications, lots under 100 acres.
					830 0	1,025 23½	15 0	6 37	1,876 60½	—	—	—	Irrigation surveys under Kalawęwa Yóda-ela.
					275 0	—	—	—	275 0	—	—	—	Sick and leave. (See also Western Province.)
									2,722 30½				

Name of Surveyor.	No. of Lots.	Extent. Crown.	Extent. Claim.	Extent. Total.	Salary.	Revenue Service.	Contingent.	Travelling.	Total.	Rate per Acre.	Average Extent of Lots.	Survey Fees.	Remarks
		A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	A. R. P.	Rs. c.	
J. W. Robertson ...	—	—	—	—	600 0	902 70	16 8	9 0	1,527 78	—	—	—	Irrigation surveys under Kalawęwa-Yoda-ęla.
					12 0	20 0	21 0	18 6	71 6	—	—	—	Travelling when changing station. (See also Western Province.)
									1,598 84				
E. Wijayasekara ...	126	754 2 30	—	754 2 30	504 0	462 18	—	10 36½	976 54½	1 29	5 3 38	2,031 40	Surveying applications, lots under 100 acres.
					297 0	213 47	—	30 88½	541 35½	—	—	—	Surveying minor road from Kekirawa to Ganewalpola, minor road and pinpára from Yakalla to Gal-oya, pinpára from Madawachchiya to Etawiragollewa & Malwatu-oya.
					33 0	21 17	—	—	54 17	—	—	—	Surveying bunds of tanks, sub-dividing old lots, &c.
									1,572 7				(See also North-Western Province.)
T. N. Caldera ...	57	491 3 1	—	491 3 1	675 0	621 12	6 86	12 75	1,315 73	2 67	8 2 20	1,284 30	Surveying applications, lots under 100 acres (scattered lots).
					90 0	45 0	—	—	135 0	—	—	—	Surveying roads from Mahakelegama to Himbutugollewa, 4 miles, Etakada to Tonigalla and from Etawiragollewa to Siyambalagaswęwa, 14 miles, and minor road from Ulpat to Galenbindunuwęwa, 2 miles.
					54 0	—	—	—	54 0	—	—	—	Sick.
									1,504 73				(See also Eastern Province.)
C. O. VanDort ...	47	383 3 7	—	383 3 7	303 0	348 10	3 0	13 12½	667 22½	1 74	8 0 26	985 10	Surveying applications, lots under 100 acres.
					96 0	186 32	5 50	39 75	327 57	—	—	—	Triangulation : 6 stations erected, 5 stations visited.
					300 0	191 50	—	71 62½	563 12½	—	—	—	Surveying roads from Kahatagahadigiliya to Kiribowa, 4 miles, Kapugollewa-Horawapotana road, 5 miles, Alut-oya-Horawapotana road, 24 miles, and Vavuniya-Vilaŭkulam-Horawapotana road, 12 miles.
					138 0	—	—	—	138 0	—	—	—	Sick.
									1,695 92				(See also Western Province.)
J. R. Mortimer ...	78	865 3 19	—	865 3 19	447 0	401 5	—	94 49	942 54	1 9	11 0 16	2,108 0	Surveying applications, lots under 100 acres.
					270 0	343 56½	—	—	613 56½	—	—	—	Surveying and connecting Alut-oya-Maminiya road, 22 miles, Horakmankulama-Tammannawa road, 11 miles, and Irambekulama Punawe road, 5 miles.
					306 0	456 36	12 0	27 73	802 9	—	—	—	Irrigation surveys under Yoda-ęla, levelling section lines, checking and completing work, &c.
					30 0	36 88	—	—	66 88	—	—	—	Identifying applications and opening old boundaries.
					42 0	—	—	—	42 0	—	—	—	On leave.
									2,467 7½				

J. S. Ball ...	68	748 0 36	30 0 20	778 1 16	687 0	693 28	20 0	19 50	1,419 78	1 82	11 1 31	1,810 60	Surveying applications, lots under 100 acres.
					120 0	94 40	—	63 69	278 9	—	—	—	Surveying roads from Kahatagahadigiliya to Kónwęwa, 5 miles, portion of road from Kónwęwa to Dachchaholmellewa, 2 miles, 4½ miles of Dématawęwa-Kónwęwa road, &c.
					105 0	—	—	—	105 0	—	—	—	Sick and leave. (See also Southern Province.)
									1,802 87				
C. H. Oldham ...	—	—	—	—	458 0	535 67½	22 22	—	1,015 89½	—	—	—	Irrigation surveys under Kalawęwa-Yóda-ęla.
					12 0	17 30	—	19 44	48 74	—	—	—	Travelling when changing station. (See also Western Province.)
									1,064 63½				
R. C. S. Pole ...	—	—	—	—	1,059 0	1,873 53	40 72	32 24	3,005 49	—	—	—	Irrigation surveys under Kalawęwa-Yóda-ęla.
					12 0	20 0	—	23 81	55 81	—	—	—	Travelling when changing station.
					45 0	—	—	—	45 0	—	—	—	On leave. (See also Western Province.)
									3,106 30				
B. W. Gray ...	1	1 0 24	—	1 0 24	3 0	4 0	—	—	7 0	—	1 0 24	5 0	Surveying applications, lots under 100 acres.
					552 0	851 65	59 20	—	1,462 85	—	—	—	Irrigation surveys under Kalawęwa-Yóda-ęla.
					9 0	12 3	—	24 44	45 47	—	—	—	Travelling when changing station.
					111 0	—	—	—	111 0	—	—	—	Sick and leave. (See also Western Province.)
	497			3,756 1 18					1,626 32				
								Total ...	45,424 40½				
PROVINCE OF UVA.													
C. Vanrooyen ...	112	566 0 0	90 0 0	656 0 0	2,625 0	1,225 3	2 50	114 62	3,967 15	6 5	5 17	1,506 50	Applications, 117 acres additional surveyed, but plans not received in time.
					393 75	164 70	—	17 50	575 95	—	—	—	Miscellaneous. Surveying Aṇgoḍa, Madulsima, minor road, defining on the ground the boundaries of the Crown lands at Sudupanawela, defining title plans boundaries, &c.
					175 0	11 7	—	—	186 7	—	—	—	Sick and leave.
									4,729 17				
L. Shipton ...	33	75 0 0	—	75 0 0	255 0	213 0	—	—	468 0	6 24	2 1 4	225 0	Application under 100 acres. (See also Central Province.)
	145			731 0 0					468 0				

F. C. H. CLARKE, Lt.-Col. R.A.,
Surveyor-General.

PART III.—JUDICIAL.

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

REMARKS OF THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL.

I SEND the annual reports of the Crown Counsel for the various Circuits, and the Solicitor-General will supply an analysis of the figures contained in the usual Criminal Returns (all of which have not as yet been completed), together with such explanatory remarks as he may wish to offer on the work done during the past year by the Prosecuting Department, which is under his direct control and supervision.

2. Since the publication of the Criminal Statistics for 1886 two important Ordinances bearing on the administration of justice have been enacted by the Ceylon Legislature.

3. The following extract from an official letter addressed to the Colonial Secretary by the Government Agent of the North-Western Province discloses the circumstances which led to the passing of the Ordinance No. 18 of 1887, which makes special provision for the repression of crime, chiefly of cattle-stealing, in that Province :—

I have the honour again to invite attention to the prevalence of serious crime and of cattle-stealing, which in an agricultural district is a grave misfortune to the people in the Seven Kóralés of this Province, and to beg earnestly that a separate Magistrate may be appointed to deal with it. I have, in my administration report for last year, entered fully into the causes to which, in my opinion, the prevalence of crime is attributable, and will only state them here as being (*a*) the absence of a Magistrate who can inquire at once into offences at the spot where they are alleged to have been committed ; (*b*) the delay in bringing offenders to trial ; (*c*) that cattle-stealers are not flogged, and flogged in the villages where the cattle have been stolen. I lately heard, when on circuit, of one man who had had the same animal stolen from him seven times, and had seven times paid to get it brought back to him. The aggregate of his payments being considerably in excess of the value of the animal, he finally sold it to a boutique-keeper for two rupees. In parts of the Kirigala hatpattu, the people are getting rid of their cattle altogether, rather than submit to the exactions of the cattle-lifters. The consequence of this in its effect upon the cultivation of paddy is obvious. The crime is ingrained in the people, and nothing will repress it but the presence in the district of an experienced and ubiquitous Magistrate, and the frequent infliction of whipping as a punishment.

4. The Ordinance itself consists of only two sections. By the first of these the Governor is empowered to appoint a Police Magistrate for the entire Province, His Excellency's power of appointment under the general provisions of the law being restricted to a "division" only. As the Magistrate so appointed will necessarily have to itinerate through the various judicial districts and divisions of the Province, he is vested with authority to continue the proceedings in any case which has already been, or which might hereafter be, instituted before any ordinary Magistrate within the Province, subject, however, to the conditions prescribed in section 19 of the Criminal Procedure Code. He will thus be enabled to aid generally in the local administration of justice, while in cattle-stealing cases the extended punitive powers given him by the Ordinance may frequently be exercised with advantage.

5. The second section empowers the Magistrate to be appointed under the Ordinance (*a*) to exercise a jurisdiction, which under Schedule II. of the Criminal Procedure Code is now shared between District and Police Courts in regard to cases of theft which come within the operation of section 368 of the Penal Code, according to the value of the cattle stolen ; and (*b*) to cause any sentence of whipping, not however exceeding 25 lashes, to be carried out within or without the precincts of a prison.

6. It is well known that ordinary Sinhalese cattle do not exceed in value Rs. 50 per head ; and as the Government has already appointed a judicial officer who is possessed of extensive experience, both as District Judge and Magistrate, the jurisdiction under (*a*) will practically be exercised by a competent tribunal ; while the sentence of whipping, if carried out in the village where the theft had been committed, as provided in (*b*), would undoubtedly have a more deterrent effect than if such sentence were carried out within the precincts of a prison. Of course, whipping wherever inflicted will continue to be subject to the general provisions of the Codes.

7. This Ordinance is intended to be only a temporary measure, and will, I presume, be repealed as soon as the state of facts which called for it has ceased to exist.

8. The other Ordinance which I refer to is No. 1 of 1888, intituled "An Ordinance to amend the Criminal Procedure Code, 1883." The chief amendment which is effected by this Ordinance, and which is contained in section 3, is the reduction of the number of the jury in all but murder cases from nine to seven. The Bill as originally drafted by me also provided for trial by a judge without a jury, but the Sub-Committee of the Legislative Council, to whom the measure was referred for consideration, while they unanimously recommended the reduction of the jury, were divided in opinion as to the expediency of trials being conducted by a judge only. The object which the Government had in view was to afford relief to the English-speaking classes of the community, who had to serve in almost three-fourths of the criminal trials in the Island before the Supreme Court. As this object could be better served by reducing the jury than by dispensing with one altogether under conditions which it was extremely unlikely would be availed of by accused persons, it was

felt that the more prudent course would be to waive, for the present at least, the proposal to have trials without a jury, and to secure the undivided support of the Legislative Council to the reduction in the number of the jury. The result was that section 3 (in which the Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Dias fully concurred), together with all the other sections of the Ordinance, was unanimously passed. The wording of the first part of section 3 is identical with that of section 274 of the Indian Criminal Procedure Code, while the second part, which has been framed in accordance with the views of the Chief Justice, is calculated to prevent a jury from returning by a majority other than the right verdict when the capital charge has been established, and to allow of the prisoner being tried *de novo*.

9. The next important amendment, which was suggested by the Chief Justice himself, is contained in section 1, which requires accused persons to select before commitment the panel from which the jury for their trial should be taken. In requiring the choice to be made before commitment, the risk is diminished of a selection being based on the knowledge of who the individuals are who are likely to compose the jury, and of their personal views and opinions. The practical effect of this section will be to save the necessity for the various panels being almost daily represented in court during a long session on the mere chance of the jurors being called upon to serve.

10. The object of section 2 is to impose on Magistrates a duty, the performance of which will enable Fiscals, or keepers of prisons, to fully obey the mandates issued by the Supreme Court under section 35 of the Administration of Justice Ordinance, 1868. It is obviously convenient that the names of all the witnesses, whether for the Crown or for the accused, should be endorsed on the back of the respective warrants of commitment.

11. Section 4 has been inserted for the purpose of ensuring, where the prosecutor and the accused cannot agree, an English-speaking jury—a jury presumably at least most competent and least open to improper influences—unless the judge otherwise directs. This section further provides in express terms that "in no case shall the accused person be allowed as of right the jury he asks for." These words were inserted to prevent, if possible, such gross miscarriages of justice as have recently occurred in the Supreme Court.

12. By section 5 the depositions of witnesses, save in the Supreme Court, are required to be signed not only by the Magistrate or Judge, but also by the interpreter, if one shall have been employed. This provision will not merely add to the authenticity of the recorded evidence, but will enable the Supreme Court in trials before it to dispense with the personal attendance of Magistrates where the interpreter is present. In this connection I may state that the effect of sections 13, 14, and 15 is to avoid, as far as possible, the inconvenience and expense caused by official witnesses having to travel great distances to the assize town for the purpose of giving purely formal evidence. A proviso, however, has been attached to each of these sections, empowering the Supreme Court to enforce the presence of any witness where the ends of justice demand that he should be personally re-examined.

13. Section 6 amends section 372 of the Ceylon Procedure Code, so as to make it correspond with section 367 of the Indian Code, under which a judgment may be given in the alternative. Section 7 provides for the punishment of escaped convicts more effectually and in less ambiguous terms than the existing law on the subject to be found in section 387 of the Ceylon Procedure Code. The object is to prevent convicts avoiding any unexpired term of imprisonment by reason of their escape. Section 8 extends the period within which the Attorney-General may appeal from ten to twenty-one days. It has been found impossible in cases tried at distant outstations to file an appeal within ten days in the court where the trial has taken place. Section 9 is intended to apply to persons affected by the statements therein referred to, who are not themselves on their trial as accused parties, but who may possibly come forward as witnesses for the prosecution or defence, although they may have been originally charged themselves. Section 10 enables police officers to arrest, without a warrant, offenders under section 314 of the Penal Code, while section 11 authorises District Courts to entertain prosecutions under certain specified sections of the Penal Code in cases where the circumstances do not call for trials before a higher tribunal, but render it desirable in the interests of justice that there should be a speedy adjudication and prompt punishment.

14. By section 12 Magistrates may require bail from witnesses at any stage of an inquiry, or when proceeding to examine them on commission under chapter 37 of the Procedure Code. Judges and Magistrates are invested by clause 16 with the power of examining the accused at any stage of an enquiry or trial. This is a wholesome power which is being exercised with advantage in India under section 342 of the Indian Code. The explanation appended to this section will serve to show the real scope and effect of the enactment, which, if properly acted upon, cannot fail to make inquiries before commitment more thorough and satisfactory.

15. To facilitate the execution of warrants in this Island, section 17 dispenses, under certain conditions, with the necessity of requiring the endorsements of local Magistrates. Justice has often been defeated and criminals have evaded arrest by the delay, and sometimes the publicity, attendant upon the obtaining of these endorsements. This section in itself combines the provisions of the repealed section 150 of the Ordinance 11 of 1868 with part of section 84 of the Indian Code.

16. Section 18 allows of a police officer endorsing over a warrant to another police officer in manner authorised by section 79 of the Indian Code. Section 19 provides for the summary and prompt trial in the Supreme Court of witnesses on alternative charges for giving false evidence. Section 20, which has been inserted at the instance of Dr. Spence, the Superintendent of the Colombo Lunatic Asylum, prescribes the mode of remanding persons suspected to be of unsound mind for medical observation; and section 21 legalises the prompt punishment by whipping (not exceeding ten strokes with a light cane or rattan) of juvenile offenders under twelve years of age within the precincts of a court. The object of this special enactment is to prevent the necessity for sending such young persons to a public prison, where alone whipping can now be administered under the provisions of our Procedure Code.

17. I consider the Ordinance No. 1 of 1888 eminently calculated to improve the procedure of our courts in criminal matters.

18. But whatever may be the improvements effected in mere judicial procedure, the practical difficulties in the way of detecting crime and of bringing offenders within the reach of

the law have not been diminished; and justice will continue to be defeated until it is possible to provide personal and prompt investigation at the scene of the crime by competent, responsible, and reliable officers. It is felt that Magistrates cannot undertake such investigation in every case. They must of necessity rely on others during the early stages of the inquiry, save in exceptionally important cases; the result being that in many instances true evidence is silenced, false evidence is concocted, the guilty escape, and the innocent are put on their trial, and perhaps convicted, by the combined effect of bribery and perjury.

19. Pending, however, a radical change in our present system, it is to be hoped that Magistrates will, to the utmost of their ability, carry out the instructions which have recently been issued to them at my instance by the Government, and which embody the following important directions:—

The proneness of villagers to hush up crime renders preliminary action on the part of Magistrates at times indispensable. Murders are not infrequent of which the whole neighbourhood is probably aware, and yet the Magistrate, who ought to be the first, is the last to receive information, and this perhaps through an anonymous petition or mere rumour. In such a case the Magistrate, if he thinks that a crime has probably been committed, should call upon the police for immediate report, giving them the necessary instructions, and whenever practicable the Magistrate should himself promptly visit the scene of the murder.

In every investigation into an alleged crime the Magistrate should, if possible, hold the threads of the inquiry in his hands from first to last, directing the police, and at any stage of the inquiry issuing warrants against parties accused and summons to persons supposed capable of giving evidence. The object of the inquiry being to elicit the truth, which both parties often seek to evade, the Magistrate should personally direct the inquiry, whether the parties are represented by pleaders or not, and should rely upon himself to make the inquiry both searching and complete. The importance of this is apparent in cases in which there is at first no spontaneous evidence, and the assistance of the police is invoked. In such cases deficiencies in the evidence are often supplied at a late date by so-called eye-witnesses who profess to have seen the crime committed. It now behoves the Magistrate to endeavour to discover whether such witnesses are true or false, and before recording the whole of their story to ascertain whether it is probable that they could have seen the incidents to which they depose. If the Magistrate neglects to thoroughly test the evidence, and merely records the tale which such witnesses glibly narrate, the whole proceedings are liable to be vitiated by what is subsequently proved to be false evidence, and a deplorable failure of justice may result. Where unsatisfactory eye-witnesses are produced at a late date, additional attention should be paid to such circumstantial evidence as is available.

It should be remembered that the *onus probandi* rests with the prosecution. The Magistrate should ascertain and record the whole of the evidence tending to establish the charge, and should test that evidence, at the same time affording every facility to the accused to disprove it and clear himself. In some instances this can best be done by the issue of summons to persons alluded to during the inquiry, and when their names do not transpire the Magistrate will none the less endeavour to secure their attendance.

In cases of murder, most especially, it is the duty of the Magistrate to sift every fact bearing on the case, in order to ascertain whether the accused is guilty or innocent; and the importance of securing the attendance of persons alluded to by an accused cannot be overrated when such persons can testify to his presence at any particular time or place relative to the inquiry—*e.g.*, when an *alibi* may be established.

20. An important element of criminal procedure is the preventive jurisdiction which is vested in Magistrates, and which I think may with advantage be more extensively exercised than it has been in the past. The wholesome provisions contained in our Procedure Code for taking security to keep the peace and for good behaviour are undoubtedly not enforced as they ought to be in the interests of the law-abiding portion of the community. It may be that Magistrates are hampered by too lengthy and elaborate a procedure, and that their discretion has sometimes been rashly interfered with by the Appellate Court; but I do believe that if the Police will intelligently co-operate with the Magistrates, in at least the principal towns of the Island, in exercising vigilant supervision over suspected characters and released convicts, we shall hear less of daring burglaries and violent assaults at the chief centres of our population.

21. On the other hand, the punitive jurisdiction of our courts is not sufficiently large, by reason of the almost total exclusion of whipping from the prescribed modes of punishment, and of the conditions under which imprisonment has been carried out in our jails. To the lower classes of natives imprisonment has been no punishment at all: it has entailed neither physical suffering nor social disgrace. The following extract from a speech made in the Legislative Council by the Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan (the Tamil member) in 1885 is instructive:

They enter the jails, are taken care of very well, fed at regular hours, incur no servile or opprobrious treatment at the hands of the officers in charge of the jails. They therefore have learnt to consider themselves as being really fed and housed at the expense of Her Majesty. They come out of jail, and what do they find? Their relatives and friends attach very little significance to the incarceration they have suffered. The idea of imprisonment has, therefore, to a great extent lost its deterrent force.

Equally instructive was what the Hon. A. De Alwis (the Siphalese member) said on the same occasion:—

A man who had once been in jail found that there was hardly any punishment in being in prison, because mostly he found that he got better food; he found also that he had to undergo regular habits, which he was not in a position to do in his own village, where sometimes he goes with perhaps one meal a day; but in jail he gets regular meals, and even rigorous imprisonment is no punishment at all.

I have already drafted a Whipping Ordinance on the lines of the Indian Whipping Act of 1864, which I trust will soon find a place in our Statute Book. I may add that I have reason to believe that our prison system has recently been so changed that imprisonment will no longer be in any degree attractive to our criminals.

22. While seeking, however, to render more deterrent the actual punishment of crime, it would be well to consider whether in the case of criminals who have been sentenced to long terms of imprisonment, and who have shown signs of reformation, there ought not to be conceded conditional liberty under some ticket-of-leave system. The subject was pressed on the attention of the Government in 1886 by Mr. Burrows, who was then Police Magistrate of Anurádhapura, and who advocated that licensed convicts should remain under the supervision of the local magistrates.

23. My own views may be gathered from the following extracts from my official report on Mr. Burrows' scheme. Mr. Howard Vincent's Bill, therein referred to, has since been passed by the Imperial Parliament in a modified form. (50 & 51 Vict., cap. 25.)

"The principle advocated by Mr. Burrows I consider to be a perfectly sound one, but the

mode in which he suggests the same should be practically applied seems to me open to the objection that the supervision of Magistrates over licensed convicts would be inadequate and abortive. Considering the large territorial jurisdiction which is vested in some Magistrates, not only would it be highly inconvenient for the convicts to report themselves periodically as proposed, but no effectual check could possibly be exercised on their conduct in far distant villages, unless the police or native headmen were directly charged with the duty of reporting at stated intervals whether the convict had or had not conformed to the conditions of his license.

"If I understand Mr. Burrows rightly, he deprecates the interference of the police and native headmen in this matter, and I am scarcely surprised that he does. If in England the system of police supervision under the Penal Servitude and Prevention of Crimes Acts has frequently been found fault with as preventing a discharged prisoner from obtaining honest employment, the disadvantage is ten-fold increased in Ceylon by employing a class of inferior officers, most of whom are incapable of using that wise discretion and sound judgment which are so necessary towards helping an unfortunate criminal to regain his lost character. Not only should restriction and supervision be intelligently and cautiously exercised, but the men discharging this duty should be above suspicion and corruption, and able to resist the temptation of a bribe from the convict's enemies in the village to unfairly secure his re-imprisonment.

"But notwithstanding the disadvantages I have pointed out, I consider it absolutely necessary, until at least the inauguration of a more hopeful state of things, that the class of officers to whom I have referred should co-operate with Magistrates in working the license system, should the necessity for its introduction, apart from existing legislation, be recognised by the Government. I may add that I entirely agree with Mr. Burrows that the question of whether a license has been forfeited or not should in every case be solemnly adjudicated upon by a competent court.

"I attach no importance to the objection which Mr. Burrows anticipates as to the difficulty of identification. If required, the suitable enactments contained in section 6 of 34 and 35 Vict., cap. 112, with modifications, may be here adopted. Those enactments relate to the keeping of proper registers and the photographing of licensed prisoners.

"The licensing system in England is entirely dependent upon police supervision, and is regulated by the Penal Servitude Acts of 1853, 1857, and 1864, and the Prevention of Crimes Acts of 1871 and 1879. It is hardly necessary for me to describe the details of this system. But it may be useful, in view of what I am about to recommend, to quote the form of license as prescribed by the Act of 1853 (see appendix A).

"In India an analogous system of licensing is in force under the Prisoners' Act No. 5 of 1871, sections 23 to 29. Nothing however is expressly stated in that Act regarding police or other supervision (see appendix B), although I have no doubt the same is provided for in the terms of the license, of which no form is specified.

"In Ceylon, the Criminal Procedure Code expressly reserves to the Governor the power at any time, with or without conditions, to suspend the execution of a sentence which has already been passed, and enacts that if the convict in whose favour such suspension has taken place fails to fulfil any of the conditions prescribed, the Governor may cancel the suspension, and such convict thereupon may, if at large, be arrested by any police officer without warrant, and remanded to undergo the unexpired portion of his sentence. This provision, it will be observed, applies to all cases of imprisonment, whether simple or rigorous, while the English and Indian Acts relate only to cases of "penal servitude," which in its strict sense is unknown in this country.

"The foregoing remarks lead to the following practical questions :—

(*a*) Is fresh legislation necessary, and if so in what form ?
(*b*) Can existing legislation be sufficiently availed of to serve the object in view ?

"I am inclined to hold that the Governor's power of suspending a sentence, wholly or in part, may be utilised as a tentative measure to give effect to what Mr. Burrows advocates, and that the conditions attached to the form of license in appendix A may with advantage be added to in the corresponding form of suspension, by the adoption of regulations requiring the convict to personally present himself periodically to the nearest police officer or native headman, and to notify his residence and any change of residence.

"If, however, separate and distinct legislation is considered desirable, I would advise the sections of the Indian Prisoners' Act appearing in appendix B being re-enacted in Ceylon together with the English form of license.

"I cannot conclude this letter without inviting His Excellency the Governor's special attention to a subject which has recently been favourably noticed in England in connection with the administration of the Criminal Law. I refer to Mr. Howard Vincent's Bill (see appendix C) for the release of first offenders on probation, the second reading of which was moved in the House of Commons only last month. The objects of the Bill are to give those who are for the first time brought by any misconduct within the reach of the Criminal Law a chance of voluntary amendment, to save them from the contaminating influence of prison life, and to relieve the State of the profitless costs involved in punishments which are too often the direct cause of further degradation and worse offences, while at the same time keeping the offender subject to such legal supervision as will prevent the abuse of the indulgence without impeding honest efforts at reformation. The Bill seeks to enact that any person convicted of a first offence may, in the discretion of the court convicting him, be released subject to police supervision of the character provided by the Crimes Prevention Acts of 1871 and 1879, instead of being sentenced to imprisonment with or without hard labour. The court may further impose any special conditions which it may think desirable, and may also order the offender to be brought up from time to time, and such report as may be directed made upon his conduct by the police.

"The ill-effects of indiscriminately awarding and enforcing imprisonment upon a first conviction are simply incalculable; and I have myself as an unofficial member of the Bar frequently pleaded in vain to the Appellate Court for a commutation of such sentence, where a commutation might reasonably have been granted in the case of young men to whom prison life meant utter degradation and ruin. The presence, however, in our Statute Book of some such law as Mr. Howard Vincent's Bill contemplates will do more than anything else I can conceive of to induce Judges and Magistrates to avert in some measure the evil results of a first imprisonment, and to give the offender a fair chance of voluntary amendment.

"But to make the practical working of such a law successful, we should beforehand ensure that supervision, without which it would be impossible to apply the law. As in the case of licensed convicts, so also in the case of first offenders on probation, it is of the first importance that the Police Force of the Island should be properly re-organised; and that the pernicious practice of employing unpaid headmen as auxiliaries in the administration of criminal justice should be altogether swept away."

Attorney-General's Office,
March 29, 1888.

S. GRENIER,
Attorney-General.

REPORT OF THE CROWN COUNSEL FOR THE NORTHERN AND WESTERN CIRCUITS.

As I have had charge of the criminal work in the Northern Circuit during the whole of the past year, and in the Western Circuit during the greater part of the year, I have the honour, as directed by you, to report upon the state of crime both in the Northern and Western Circuits, under the following heads :—

(1) How far the increased jurisdiction of District Courts has afforded relief to the Supreme Court in its criminal jurisdiction during the year 1887.
(2) How far the practical working of the Ceylon Penal Code has increased the Criminal work of the Supreme Court.
(3) The number of cases tried in the Supreme and District Courts within the Northern and Western Circuits in 1887, and the number in each of the four previous years, distinguishing the number under the Old and New Procedure.
(4) My views as to the state of crime within my Circuits during the past year as compared with previous years, and the causes which, in my opinion, have led to the increase or decrease of crime.
(5) Suggestions for improving the administration of criminal justice within my Circuits, and for securing more effectually the prevention as well as the detection of crime.

1. I will, in the first place, deal with heads 1, 2, and 3, as they are intimately connected one with the other. I annex a return A showing the number of appeals to the Supreme Court from the District and Police Courts of the Island. From this return it will appear that the number of appeals has decreased over 65 per cent. since the Codes came into operation.

2. The number of criminal appeals has probably been reduced by three causes :—

(*a*) That the right of appeal has been taken away by the Codes in those cases in which the defendant has been sentenced by a District Court to imprisonment not exceeding three months or fine not exceeding Rs. 100, or by a Police Court to imprisonment not exceeding one month or fine not exceeding Rs. 25, unless upon a matter of law, or unless with the leave of the court.

(*b*) The imposition of a stamp of Rs. 5 on each petition of appeal. At one time the Supreme Court held that this applied to all appeals filed, but by recent decisions the use of stamps is limited to appeals not at the instance of the Attorney-General.

(*c*) That there is no appeal from sentences of acquittal, except at the instance of the Attorney-General, who had to file his appeal within ten days from the date of the judgment. This time was frequently insufficient as regarded distant outstations, for the Attorney-General could not sanction an appeal without perusing a copy of the proceedings and judgment appealed against. Ordinance No. 1 of 1888 has enlarged the time to twenty-one days.

3. Returns B and C show the number of cases tried in the Supreme and District Courts within the Western Circuit, including the districts of Colombo, Negombo, Ratnapura, and Kalutara.

The district of Colombo includes the division of Colombo, the western portion of the division of Avisáwélla, and the northern portion of the division of Pánaduré. The district of Negombo includes only the division of Negombo. The district of Ratnapura includes the divisions of Ratnapura, Rakwána, and the eastern portion of the division of Avisáwélla. The district of Kalutara includes the division of Kalutara and the southern portion of the division of Pánaduré.

The return shows some diminution in the cases tried in the Supreme Court during the past year, and considerable falling off in cases sent to the District Courts for trial, the cases tried in the Supreme Court in the Western Circuit being only 138, as against 238 in 1884, and in the District Courts 207, as against 277 in the same year. Returns D and E show the number of cases and persons tried in the Supreme and District Courts in the Western Circuit in 1887, with the results. Return G shows the number of serious crimes tried in the Supreme and District Courts from 1883 to 1887 in the Western Circuit. Returns H, I, K, L, and M show the same results in the Supreme and District Courts in the Northern Circuit.

These last returns manifest a diminution of cases tried in the Northern Circuit, especially in the District Courts, being, in the Supreme Court 32, as against 47 in 1884, and in the District Courts 34, as against 97 in 1884.

In the Western Circuit, sessions of the Supreme Court were held at Colombo in January, April, July, and November, at Ratnapura in May and September, and at Kalutara in June and December.

At Ratnapura there were in May and September 10 and 9 cases in the calendar, respectively, and at Kalutara in June and December 10 and 17 cases, respectively.

I consider it advantageous that sessions should be held at these stations twice in each year, as it relieves the Colombo jurymen; provided, however, due care be taken not to try at these stations cases from villages within the District of Colombo, for one of the chief objects of holding sessions at these places is to save the parties and their witnesses from long journeys to Colombo. But this object has been defeated, to some extent at least, by including in the calendars for Ratnapura all the cases committed for trial by the Avisáwélla Magistrate, and those for Kalutara all cases committed for trial by the Pánaduré Magistrate. The mandates of the Supreme Court should, in

my opinion, only direct the Deputy Fiscals of Ratnapura and Kalutara to produce for trial cases committed in their districts, for the reason I am about to give.

The district of Colombo includes the Siyaṇé kóralé (excluding the two vidáné villages of Galgomuwa and Béruwala, which are included in the district of Negombo), and the jurisdiction of the Avisáwélla Police Court extends to the road from Haṇwella to Attanagalla, thus including some portion of the Gaṇgaboḍa pattu of the Siyaṇé kóralé. Cases from these villages should, I think, be tried at Colombo, as the distance is three times greater to Ratnapura, being about fifteen miles in the one case and forty-five miles in the other. Similarly, the district of Colombo includes the villages attached to the vidáné of Moraṭuwa and in the Salpiṭi kóralé, and the jurisdiction of the Panaduré Police Court includes the same villages attached to the vidáné of Moraṭuwa and extends to the village of Aṇgulána, some nine miles from Colombo and seventeen from Kalutara.

I may mention that Mr. Philip De Saram, the Police Magistrate of Avisáwélla, pointed out to Government the hardships inflicted upon the said parties and witnesses if compelled to go to Ratnapura for the trial of their cases.

The State of Crime within the Western Circuit.

4. The statistics do not show any general increase of crime (on the contrary G and M show a decrease), though rumour would indicate that cases of house-breaking have been very common during the past year, especially within the city of Colombo; and thefts from the persons of passers along the roads, with or without violence, have been the cause of frequent complaints. A comparison of the returns published for last year with those for this year shows that a greater number of certain offences have been tried this year than during the last. I find that last year, in the Northern and Western Circuits, there were 42 cases of murder tried, in which 69 persons were charged; of these, 37 were convicted and 32 were acquitted. During the same period there were 14 cases of culpable homicide not amounting to murder tried, in which 21 persons were charged; of these, 14 were convicted and 7 were acquitted. During the past year in the two Circuits there have been 28 cases of murder tried, in which 51 persons were charged; of these, 23 were found guilty (nearly all being executed) and 25 were acquitted. The charge against two persons was withdrawn, and against one other person was otherwise disposed of.

The Colombo case was withdrawn for the following reasons, under section 278 of the Procedure Code, and the accused was discharged from that prosecution.

Three persons were charged at the first session at Colombo, the first and second with murder, and the third accused, the deceased's wife, with aiding and abetting the first and second accused in the commission of the offence. The jury acquitted the second and third accused, but could not agree as regards the first accused, as in charges of murder at least six out of nine must agree upon a verdict. He (the first accused) was remanded into the custody of the Fiscal and was tried for the second time at Ratnapura. Again the jury could not agree, and the evidence given was far from satisfactory; indeed, I had serious doubts whether the accused was the man who had shot the deceased. It seemed to me that it was very likely that the original second accused had done so. The accused was, therefore, again remanded, but in view of all the circumstances the Attorney-General did not consider that a third trial should take place. The second instance of withdrawal was in the Jaffna murder. The judge said that there was no case to go to the jury against the first accused; so I withdrew the charge against him.

In the detailed returns by the Attorney-General for last year I find that the charge of murder is combined with several other offences. I have not usually joined any other charges for offences *ejusdem generis*, though of a lower degree, as under section 212 of the Procedure Code "when a person is charged with an offence, and facts are proved which reduce it to a minor offence, he may be convicted of the minor offence though he is not charged with it." Thus, if charged with murder (section 296), he may be convicted of culpable homicide not amounting to murder (section 297), voluntarily causing grievous hurt (section 316, 317), causing hurt (sections 314, 315), of Criminal force and assault (sections 343, 344), &c.

As regards cases of culpable homicide not amounting to murder, there have, during the past year, been 21 cases tried, in which 26 persons were charged. Of these, 15 have been found guilty and 11 have been acquitted. Very few of the cases of homicide show that the fatal wound was inflicted with the intention of causing death, nor does the evidence usually point to the fact that the accused had any express intention of causing such bodily injuries as were likely to cause death; but, rather, that the accused so recklessly used a knife, which he snatched from his waist cloth or had in his hand, that the wound inflicted proved fatal, though very probably the accused did not intend any such result; for whether the wounds prove fatal or not usually depends upon the depth and position of the wound, and the accused's punishment upon the accident, whether a vital organ be wounded or not. Section 293 of the Code defines culpable homicide, *inter alia*, as doing an act with the knowledge that he is likely by such act to cause death; and the probable result of plunging a knife into a man's body is an act which the accused must know is so imminently dangerous that it must in all probability cause death. These fatal assaults I attribute to the unfortunate habit which persons in the country have of using lethal weapons instead of their fists on the slightest provocation in settling trifling disputes.

The law of homicide has undergone a great change by the introductin of the Penal Codes. Under our old law, if a person unlawfully caused the death of another, without any motive either express or implied, as if a man while doing an unlawful act by accident killed anther, or if upon a sudden quarrel two persons fight, and one of them gave a blow from the effects of which the other died, the person doing the unlawful act or giving the blow would have been guilty of manslaughter. Under the Code, to constitute homicide there must be *intention* in doing the act, or else *knowledge* of the probable result of the act; and the prosecution must establish the *intention* or *knowledge* which the Code requires to make up the offence.

This was held in two cases during the last year. At Badulla, I prosecuted one man for causing the death of another by striking him over the head with a small plate: a wound was caused which, from some occult reasons, caused death. The Chief Justice pointed out that the accused could not have intended to cause death, nor could he have had the knowledge that such a slight blow would cause death, and directed the accused to be found guilty of assault.

In a second case, at Jaffna, before Clarence, J., it was proved that a man died from the effects

of a broken leg caused by a blow given by the accused with a stick. It was proved that such a blow would not be sufficient in the ordinary course of nature to cause death, death being the result of the deceased's state of body. The judge held that he could not be convicted of culpable homicide of either degree.

In a third case, it was proved that a man assaulted his wife with his fist. She had a diseased spleen, which was ruptured by the violence. It was not shown that the husband knew of the disease rendering the blow fatal, which would otherwise not have seriously hurt the woman. Clarence, J., directed a verdict for assault.

There was a charge of murder tried at the fourth Colombo session. Some women, who were on the road leading from Colombo to Negombo, saw the body of a newly-born infant lying in the middle of the road, and a bullock hackery being driven at great speed in the distance towards Negombo. The hackery was stopped, and in it was found two people—a woman, who bore marks of having just been delivered of a child, was sitting at the back part of the hackery, and a man, the woman's father, was driving it. The first question raised at the trial was whether the child killed had an existence independent of its mother.

It was urged for the prosecution that section 393, explanation 3, made it an offence to cause the death of a living child irrespective of the condition required by English law. The paragraph is as follows:—"The causing the death of a child in the mother's womb is not homicide." [This offence is punishable under section 306.] "But it may amount to culpable homicide to cause the death of a living child, if any part of the child has been brought forth, though the child may not have breathed or been completely born." These words are not free from ambiguity. They say that causing the death *may* amount to culpable homicide, but no provision is made for the circumstances under which it is homicide,—probably the circumstances provided for in section 293, paragraph 1. The prisoners were acquitted.

There was a murder tried at Jaffna at the second session, which caused some excitement and ill-feeling between the villagers of Tinnevelli and Kandermadam. I do not believe that the evidence led by me at the trial was trustworthy, or that the real circumstances have transpired, though the jury convicted two of the accused. I am glad that His Excellency commuted their sentence.

That two young men were murdered at the Nallur temple, during the festival of November 2, 1886, is beyond doubt, but I do not believe that the murder was premeditated, or that the eighth accused was the originator of the crime.

It is not necessary for me to point out the reasons why I think all the accused should either have been convicted or acquitted: the latter was the course most consistent with the evidence and common sense. I believe the version of the affair given by the first accused, who was acquitted, that the murder arose out of a feud between the young men of two villages, who met at the temple that night. Two of those who took a prominent part in the row have fled from justice, and common rumour says that one of them was seriously wounded. This case is another instance of how persons in the country will, with hellish motive, try and swear away the lives of their enemies.

I will, in table O, give a short account of each charge of homicide showing the verdict and sentence and probable motive.

Attempt to Commit Murder.—One of the cases was an attempt made by a prisoner to murder a prison officer at Jaffna. The prisoner had by some means succeeded in securing a glazier's knife, and with this weapon he dealt a blow on the head of the officer, which, had it not been for his turban, would probably have killed him. The guard at the door cannot have examined the prisoner very carefully if the knife were obtained outside the prison, else the knife could not have been taken into the prison; or, if used by the prisoner inside the walls of the jail, there must have been some neglect of the officer in charge of the working party in not removing the knife from the hands of the prisoner when the day's work was finished.

The other case was one in which a prisoner had escaped from the working party in the Kalutara district. After he had been away for some months, the police obtained information that he was in his native village. The Pánaduré Magistrate issued a warrant for his arrest. A police sergeant and some constables were sent to arrest the convict. He rushed out of the house on seeing the police armed with a revolver, and fired one barrel at the police sergeant, which fortunately missed him. The convict then ran away pursued by the sergeant and constables. He twice turned round and fired at his pursuers, but did not succeed in wounding any of them. Eventually he was run down and overpowered. The prisoner curiously suggested that he only fired to show the police that he was armed; and Mr. Justice Dias seemed to take this strange view of the case, and the prisoner was acquitted. It was proved that the prisoner bought the pistol at the Pettah after his escape from prison. I look upon the acquittal as a miscarriage of justice, and very unfortunate, as the police require every protection.

Voluntarily causing Grievous Hurt with a Dangerous Weapon under section 317.—In 1887 there were 19 cases tried, in which 22 persons were charged, 14 being convicted, and 8 acquitted.

The numbers last year have slightly increased, being 25 cases with 31 persons charged. Of these, 19 were convicted, and 8 acquitted; the charge against three was withdrawn, because they had been convicted in other cases in the same calendar, and one case was disposed of in the following manner. The accused was deaf and dumb, and found by the jury as unable to stand his trial, because he could not understand the proceedings. He was, under 351 section of the Procedure Code, detained pending the pleasure of the Governor.

Sections 315 *and* 316.—There have been comparatively few trials in the Supreme Court under these sections, as unless there are circumstances of aggravation, I usually send them to the District Court.

Rape.—There were five cases in the Kalutara district and one case at Jaffna during the past year, in which five persons were charged. Out of these, three were convicted of rape. In the Jaffna case, the accused was convicted of an attempt to outrage the girl's modesty. The three at Kalutara were very bad cases, in which the girls were mere children, and the bodily injury was very great owing to the violence used and the laceration of the parts. These accused rightly deserved corporal punishment, but the Code does not allow its infliction. In one case the complainant and accused were cousins, about fifteen and eighteen respectively. As the parties wished to marry, and to this course the relations were agreeable, I withdrew the case. In the fifth case I consider that the accused was properly acquitted.

Fraudulently passing and possessing False Coin.—One of the cases tried at Kalutara showed that the accused had probably for some time been carrying on a trade in false rupees. The police received information of what was going on from a man who, I believe, was one of the gang. A police sergeant and some constables were sent to the spot indicated, who seized a number of false rupees in the possession of the accused, silver, and other things, probably intended to be used in the manufacture of the false coins. The Ratnapura case was of that class in which the accused tried to pay for a cloth with a false rupee, and when searched others were found in his possession.

At one time during the year I found that a great number of false coins were in circulation in Colombo. I believe that they were put in circulation by certain persons employing labour about the wharf.

Theft and unlawfully receiving Stolen Property knowing it to be Stolen.—One was a bad case. A quantity of silk had arrived in the harbour from China per P. & O. ss. Hydaspes. This was being transhipped to the P. & O. ss. Ganges from Calcutta bound for London. For this purpose at about 6 o'clock on January 4, 1887, a number of bales of silk, manufactured and raw, was put into a cargo boat, as it was too late for the boat to discharge that evening. The tindal was directed to remain alongside of the Ganges for the night. In the morning it was found that three bales of silk were missing. Information was at once given to the Manager of the Wharf and Warehouse Company. It was proved that about midnight a boat came alongside of the cargo boat from Módara, and that the three bales were put into it by the tindal. The bales were landed at Módara and were thence by cart taken to the house of one Rajapillai, the sixth accused, a well-known Moorman, Sinne Lebbe, paying the cart hire. On opening the bales Sinne Lebbe must have been disappointed, for, instead of spun silk, the contents were raw silk, an unmarketable commodity in Ceylon. The bales were then removed to the godown of one Bastiampillai, the father-in-law of Rajapillai. Rajapillai went to the Wharf and Warehouse Company, who were responsible for the silk, and asked what reward would be paid on obtaining information where the silk was to be found. He was told Rs. 500. Whereupon, I believe that he went to Sinne Lebbe and asked for a similar sum, but as the silk could not be sold in Ceylon his demand was not complied with. So the Manager of the Company was put on the track, and the silk worth Rs. 4,000 was recovered. The accused were convicted. The sixth accused, the receiver, was sentenced to the maximum punishment under section 374 (three years' rigorous imprisonment); the others were sentenced to two years' rigorous imprisonment.

Criminal Breach of Trust.—These three cases were brought by the Postmaster-General against one Tissera, the Postmaster of Kollupitiya. The accused had received several amounts of money to transmit by Post Office Orders to Southern India, which sums he appropriated to his own use. The mode of dealing with Indian money orders differs from that of inland money orders. In the latter, the order for payment is given to the remitter to be sent by him to the payee; in Indian money orders the remitter pays the sum to be remitted and the commission to the post-holder, giving him all the necessary information as regards name and residence of payee, &c. It is the duty of the postmaster to give a receipt to the remitter, entering the money received in his cash book. The money thus received should be sent to the General Post Office the morning following its receipt, with a copy of the cash book and daily returns showing moneys thus received. The Postmaster-General makes arrangements with the Indian Post Offices to pay these sums. The accused in four instances, in the month of June, did not enter the money thus received for transmission to Southern India in his cash book or in his daily returns, and did not send the amount to the General Post Office. The crime was only discovered when the remitters complained to the Postmaster-General that the payee had not received the money. The Post Office made the money good. The prisoner was also unable to account for over Rs. 150 of other moneys received for local purposes. He said that he had been robbed, but all the surrounding circumstances negatived this defence. He was convicted.

House-breaking by night with intent to commit Theft.—Surprise is expressed that, whereas there are so many charges of house-breaking preferred, so few are brought to trial; but a few moments' consideration will show the reason. These offences are committed under cover of darkness, and it is seldom that the perpetrators of these offences are recognised, so as to be identified in court. I believe that in the few cases in which convictions are obtained it is very doubtful whether the evidence is trustworthy, and whether the arrests have not taken place, because the person arrested is of a bad character, and, of course, when produced the native whose house has been robbed has little hesitation in stating that he identifies the man in custody as one of the robbers. This was, I think, illustrated by a case of robbery which occurred in Slave Island. Mrs. Skeen's house was broken into. She saw a man pass across the room; the police at once arrested a man, one of known bad character, but of course Mrs. Skeen could not possibly swear to the man; hence he was discharged. Had the complainant been an ordinary native, she would have identified the man without any hesitation, and probably he would have been convicted. But even when persons are arrested by the police as likely house-breakers, and they are identified, the property stolen is not forthcoming. This may be attributed to the fact that when not of much value there are plenty of fences in the Pettah to receive it, or if the goods are valuable, they are sent to the coast of India in a native dhony. Only in one case have I known any considerable portion of the property recovered: that was in the case of Mr. Arunáchalam. His house was broken into, and as the thieves were carrying the plunder along Darley road a constable asked one of the men what he had in the bundle. The man threw down the bundle and ran into Mr. Lee's compound. Mr. Lee's appu seized the man, came out to the road, and the property found in the bundle was, of course, taken to the nearest police station.

Persons whose houses are broken into frequently blame the servants, but I think that this blame is not always deserved, as the house-breakers can break through an eighteen-inch cabook wall without sufficient noise to awake any person sleeping fairly soundly. In October last I was lying awake about 1.30 A.M., and hearing a noise in an outer room, as if of rats knawing some wood, I went into the room in the dark. I went towards the noise and found that it came from outside the wall of the house near the back door. I listened, and heard whispering; a few moments afterwards I saw two fingers holding a lighted lucifer match put through a hole in the wall; I was fortunately out of the line of sight. After apparently looking at the fastening of the door, the fingers were withdrawn and the work proceeded. Had I not been standing within three feet of

the wall I could not have heard the noise, as these men usually moisten the mortar with vinegar, and then with a triangular instrument remove the stones. After standing and listening for some time I fired through the hole, taking care not to hit either of the nocturnal visitors, as I could hardly have urged that I fired in right of self-defence.

In one case that came for trial I found from the evidence that the house-breakers made a hole through a wall, but finding an almirah in the way burrowed a passage underneath it, and then emptied the almirah of its contents. Two of the gang were convicted, being found in possession of the stolen property of which they were unable to account for the possession.

House-breakers usually bore a hole near a door and thus remove the bar with which so many doors are secured; and one of them enters through the hole and opens the door to allow of their easy escape. When in the house they light a wick to enable them to secure the plunder; if disturbed, the light is extinguished, and the robbers escape through the door.

Forgery (section 454).—The Ratnapura case was one in which the accused, a notary, was charged with altering a deed in a material part after it had been executed. The case seemed to me one of great doubt: it depended on the evidence of Mr. Proctor Marshall and one other witness. The evidence in the Supreme Court was not convincing, and I believe the jury would have returned a verdict of not guilty had not the case been withdrawn from the jury by Mr. Drieberg, Crown Counsel, who was prosecuting.

The other cases need no comment: they were for obtaining shop goods by means of forged orders. Such cases will for the future be cognizable by the District Courts. (See Ordinance No. 1 of 1888.)

Forging Valuable Securities (section 456).—The case tried at Ratnapura terminated in a miscarriage of justice, owing, in my opinion, to a wrong view taken of the case by the presiding Judge.

There was a piece of land belonging to A, B, C, D, and E. E died, and his son inherited his share. A, B, C, and D wished to sell the land. So they got a deed prepared: A, B, C, and D signed the deed saying that E's son was away from the village. A few days after C and D took G to the notary's house, and G, personating E's son, signed the deed. It was proved, beyond a doubt, that G signed the deed and not E's son, but the Judge suggested to the jury that possibly the accused C, D, and G were only tools in the hands of the man in whose favour the deed was drawn. Of this there was no evidence. The result was that the prisoners were acquitted.

Intentionally giving False Evidence (section 190).—This was a case tried at Trincomalee, in which the accused was charged with intentionally giving false evidence in the alternative; that is to say, before the Police Magistrate the accused made one statement and before the District Judge of Trincomalee another statement inconsistent with, and opposed to, that made before the Magistrate. Mr. Clarence held that, unless the prisoner stated which of the two statements was false, that the Crown must prove it.

As our Procedure Code then stood I considered the ruling right. It is perfectly true that schedule III., heading XXII. (ii) 4, provided for the framing of an alternative charge under section 190, but the Code nowhere relieved the prosecution of the burden of proving which was false, should the accused plead not guilty.

Ordinance No. 1 of 1888, section 6, by amending the Procedure has assimilated our Code to the Indian Penal Code. The section is as follows:—"When the conviction is under the Ceylon Penal Code, and it is doubtful under which of two sections or under which of two parts of the same section of that Code the offence falls, the court shall distinctly express the same and pass judgment in the alternative." So that, provided two statements are absolutely contradictory, and irreconcilable, and necessarily one of them must be false, evidence need not be led to show which of the statements is false, but the court or jury will simply find that the allegations made in the charge are proved; that is to say, that one of the allegations is false. This is the course now adopted in the various courts in India.

It being very necessary that every power should be given to courts to punish false testimony—for its prevalence in our courts to some extent paralyses the administration of justice—it is with this view that the Supreme Court has had, by section 19 of No. 1 of 1888, additional powers conferred upon it for the summary trial of lying witnesses on an alternative charge, so that when a witness at a Supreme Court trial on a material point contradicts the evidence previously given by him at the inquiry before the Magistrate, the presiding Judge can have the mendacious witness tried at the conclusion of the trial by the same jury on an indictment to be then and there presented by the Attorney-General in the form (4), contained under the heading of "charges with two or more heads" in the schedule III. to the Procedure Code; and the witness, if convicted, will be liable to the punishment provided in section 190 of the Ceylon Penal Code. It is hoped that the Judges will for the future use this useful power. A few such prosecutions will have a deterrent effect, for on the alternative charge, should the charged witness plead not guilty, it will not be necessary to call the Magistrate or his interpreter to prove what the witness said before the Police Court, as the depositions of the said witness before the Police Court, if it purport to have been taken and recorded in accordance with the provisions of the Procedure Code, can be received in evidence without further proof in any trial in which such witnesses may be charged with having intentionally given false evidence (section 13): thus the first statement being thus proved, it will only then be necessary to call some officers of the Supreme Court to prove the second statement made.

While there is a great deal of false evidence in our courts, Judges are far too apt to exaggerate the evil—I mean those Judges who know nothing of the native character, and who forget that when the evidence is given in two courts through different interpreters some differences will exist, though they may be more apparent than real. And I do think that Judges of the Supreme Court should deal tenderly with villagers, whose presence of mind may be, indeed, often is, disturbed by the paraphernalia of the Supreme Court.

5. I cannot report any marked increase or decrease in the state of crime in the Northern and Western Circuits. It is true that the returns G and M show a decrease in the cases tried before the Supreme and District Courts during the past year as compared with previous years, but without a detailed account of the work done in the various Police Courts, showing not merely the cases sent for trial, but also those in which the accused have been discharged, and the causes of such

discharge, it would be impossible to form any very clear opinion as to the real state of crime in these circuits.

If we are to credit common rumour and newspaper reports, cases of house-breaking, theft, street robberies of a daring nature, and serious assaults are of every day occurrence, though few of the persons committing these offences are ever prosecuted.

I can hardly imagine any person, unless impelled by a high sense of duty or of revenge, seeking redress in our criminal courts. Money must be spent in retaining Proctors and in paying the batta of witnesses, for it is well known that unless a party complainant supports witnesses on the days of inquiry or trial very liberally, they will probably say that they did not see the offence committed, or will so give evidence as to ensure the acquittal of the accused. Again, the complainant has probably with his witnesses to attend several times before the Police Court and Superior Courts, and has in addition to run the risk of being charged with lying, and punished by a Judge who does not understand the language in which the evidence is being given, and who is thus dependent upon an interpreter.

However, in view of the ordinary increase of the population of the city of Colombo as well as of the large increment to the vagabond population, caused by persons of this class leaving Galle, no longer the port of call for the mail steamers, and coming to Colombo to work at the wharf and in the boats in the harbour owing to the increasing tonnage calling at the port, and assuming that the police continue to do their duty not worse than in former years, and that the percentage of unprosecuted cases has not increased, the statistics show a decrease in serious crime.

As regards Police Court cases within the city of Colombo, I find that in 1884 there were 6,543 institutions, 11,252 persons being charged; in 1887, 4,479 cases, 7,138 persons being charged. At the Water Police Court I find that there is a slight increase during the past year, as there were in 1884 107 cases and 174 accused; in 1887, 298 cases and 529 accused. I notice a decrease in the institutions in the Pánaduré Police Court: in 1884, 2,389 cases and 4,437 accused, and in 1887, 1,817 cases and 3,799 accused; in Negombo Police Court: in 1884, 2,592 cases and 4,817 accused, and in 1887, 1,625 cases and 3,292 accused; in Kalutara Police Court: in 1884, 2,017 cases and 3,878 persons, in 1887, 1,257 cases and 2,317 persons. In the Northern Circuit crime is in *statu quo*. Now and again we find a slight increase in cases tried, but this arises usually from some disputes about the management of a Hindu temple: one faction wishes to oust the other, criminal force is resorted to, resulting in various charges and counter-charges of riot and of assault.

In Trincomalee the formation of new fortifications will draw men together from other parts of the Island, and as cases tried in Trincomalee during the second session of 1887 were cases of house-breaking and robbery, hitherto unknown in that quiet locality, I fear that some bad characters have already migrated thither.

I understand that there is a good deal of cattle-stealing going on in the southern part of the Batticaloa district among the Moors, who, finding the distance to the courts at Batticaloa considerable, have their cases settled in their mosques. From reports I received I much fear that there is a good deal of serious crime in that locality, which remains unpunished owing to the absence of a monthly visit of the Batticaloa Police Magistrate to Kalmunai.

From returns sent to me by Magistrates in the Northern Circuit, I find that there are 1,131 cases (in which 2,322 were charged) instituted in the Batticaloa Police Court in 1884 against 899 cases, in which 1,733 were charged during the past year; in the Trincomalee Police Court, in 1884, 515 cases, in which 1,097 persons were charged, and in 1887, 515 cases, in which 851 persons were charged; in the Jaffna Police Court, in 1884, 2,544 cases, in which 4,918 persons were charged, and in 1887, 2,836 cases, in which 4,156 were charged.

At the smaller stations I do not find any considerable difference in Police Court institutions.

At Mannár: in 1884, 249 cases and 492 persons; in 1887, 187 cases and 321 persons. At Kayts: in 1884, 1,993 cases and 4,270 persons; in 1887, 1,739 cases and 3,122 persons. At Mullaittívu: in 1884, 156 cases and 320 persons; in 1887, 136 cases and 253 persons. At Vavuṇiya-Viláṇkulam: in 1884, 112 cases and 249 persons; in 1887, 125 cases and 301 persons.

It must be borne in mind that Police Courts and District Courts cannot try cases in which persons habitually committing theftuous offences against the provisions of Chapter XVII. of the Criminal Code are brought to trial, for section 68 specially enacts, that if any person, convicted of an offence punishable under Chapter XVII. with imprisonment for a term of three years or upwards (with one or two exceptions, this includes all the theftuous offences set out in the said chapter) *shall* be subsequently guilty of any offence punishable under the said chapter with imprisonment for three years and upwards, he *shall* be subject for every such subsequent offence to double the amount of punishment to which he would otherwise have been liable for the same, provided, however, that the term of such imprisonment shall not exceed twenty years, or in cases of whipping, twenty-five lashes or twenty-five strokes. This section, the Chief Justice held at the last Kalutara session, gave him no discretion as to the amount of punishment to be awarded.

Thus, a cattle stealer might for the first offence receive a sentence of six months in the Police Courts; for every subsequent offence he would be liable to six years' rigorous imprisonment, double the amount of punishment prescribed by section 367; and such cases must be tried in the Supreme Court.

6. You ask me for suggestions for improving the administration of justice within these Circuits.

Our first object should be to create a feeling among the criminal classes, that in all probability detection will follow the commission of crime. It is, I believe, the exact converse in Ceylon. The detection of the persons who commit a crime is the exception, not the rule. True, persons are frequently punished who are quite innocent of the offence charged, though they have probably the misfortune to be bad characters by habit and repute.

Our Police arrangements are very defective. I include with the regular police village headmen and peace officers. Police constables are kept on duty for some fourteen hours, including the time required to go and form muster, and naturally the overworked constable, as soon as things are quiet at night, coils himself up under a tree or in some sequestered spot and tries by sleep to restore some energy to his wearied body; if caught, he is fined, and as the pay he draws is small, he has to recoup himself in some way or another.

But assuming that he cannot find a quiet quarter, if he be wise he will not see or hear any criminal act, for should he do so his few hours of rest will be further reduced by having to dance attendance at the Police Court, with the chance of being punished for a defective memory or too lively an imagination. I would suggest that the hours of duty be shortened, and as this will entail the employment of a larger force of men, the number of men on a beat might be reduced. At night the police should be supplied with bull's-eye lanterns, especially as economy compels the Municipal Council to put out the gaslights at midnight. On one occasion I required the assistance of a constable to pursue a thief who had snatched away an umbrella from a European gentleman who was walking along the road past the coal sheds at about 8 P.M. The thief had taken refuge in the darkness of the coal sheds. The constable said that he had no lantern—that there were very few lanterns available for the police force. I need hardly say that nothing was ever heard of the thief or of the umbrella.

Constables in their houses, and when not on duty, wear no boots. Native constables would be able to run faster without these awkwardly-made boots, which, besides being useless, help to reduce the constable's pay, as he has to pay for them himself.

There are so-called detectives in Ceylon, but they are merely well-known constables not in uniform. They are known to all the thieves in the place; whereas, to be useful, they should, at night, go about in disguise dressed as common coolies, or in any way to conceal their true character. I am aware of the difficulties these men have to contend with: they are so often distrusted by Magistrates and Judges, and they have not the facilities for detecting crime that detectives have at home. There, the detectives know all the bad characters, and these they use to gain information; but in this country no criminal would trust a native detective lest he should be betrayed to the wrath of his companions.

Still, with the bad material we have, much might be done if Magistrates would treat the police with more consideration and would direct their efforts. I have often, when doing duty as a Magistrate, found members of the force very useful, but if every error of judgment or mistake of procedure is to call down severe censure or even punishment instead of advice, can the public be surprised that the police are inactive?

Further, it seems to me that in the metropolis, at any rate, there should be an experienced Superintendent of Police with a knowledge of the native languages, clothed with the powers of an Unofficial Police Magistrate, so that when a serious crime is reported he can at once proceed to the spot and hold a magisterial investigation, the proceedings being handed in to the senior Police Magistrate of the city as soon as the case is worked up. The same officer might have charge of all prosecutions by the police.

In my last annual report I pointed out the need of paying village headmen, at any rate so many of them as are employed in executing or serving criminal process; but in addition to this, these headmen require some instructions as to their duties under the Criminal Procedure Code. They should specially be instructed to keep under careful observation released convicts and the bad characters of their village: these they should watch as far as they can.

The next point we should have in view in attempting to repress crime is, that there should be a reasonable certainty of punishment following detection: the payment of witnesses giving evidence before the District Court would help in this direction. This certainty does not exist in Ceylon, especially in the city of Colombo, where such a large number of our criminal population congregates. This I attribute to the very hard work of the Police Magistrate of Colombo and the physical impossibility of this officer doing justice to the very serious cases that daily come before him. This want tends to allow serious crimes to go unpunished. In my opinion it is very desirable that a junior officer should be appointed to hear the ordinary charge sheet cases, which occupy a large portion of the day's work. When that duty is finished he might spend his spare time in the Kachchéri. Then the senior Magistrate would have full time to carefully investigate charges of a serious nature and to direct inquirers into deaths in their proceedings. It seems to me to be the duty of a Magistrate to sift every fact bearing on the case, and to summon all persons whose names transpire in the inquiry, who may reasonably be supposed to know something of what took place. Dates should be carefully inserted so far as they are known, and as Magistrates usually refer to the accused by their number, each day's proceedings should commence with the name of the complainant and of the accused, especially as depositions can now be read in evidence, if properly taken, without any proof. It is true that these omissions may be supplied under instructions from a Crown Counsel, but it is far better that the evidence be properly taken in the first place.

Ordinance No. 1 of 1888, section 16, contains a proviso similar to that of section 352 of the Indian Procedure Code. The Indian High Court have pointed out to Magistrates that this proviso should be used. The Calcutta High Court, in a circular, said: "It is obvious that the truth of any ordinary case will be best elicited and obscure points will be cleared away by any explanation that any accused may wish to give, when after hearing all the evidence against him, or at any other time in the discretion of the Magistrate, he may be subjected to an examination before the Magistrate on all points requiring elucidation, it being clearly explained to the accused that it is at his option to answer such questions or not. The court, however, desires to explain that in issuing their directions it in no way sanctions any proceedings of an inquisitorial nature."

I am aware that some Magistrates, who have been long accustomed to a system which favoured the escape of the guilty and endangered the liberty of the innocent, are unwilling to avail themselves of the help given to inquiries by this section; still I trust that in time their prejudices will vanish.

Having convicted an accused party, the next step is to render punishment deterrent by deterring the convict himself from repeating his offences, and by deterring others from commencing a course of crime. There are other cases in which society seeks to protect itself from the criminal acts of particular individuals.

It is upon this principle that murderers are executed,—their acts have rendered them dangerous to society and unfit to live; and following out the same idea, I think that transportation would be a most beneficial mode of relieving the Colony from the presence of confirmed and dangerous criminals; and this mode of punishment would undoubtedly act as a deterrent to criminals in general, for the prison life in Ceylon does not strike terror into the hearts of criminals, as it is far too pleasant. Good food, comfortable cells, gentle exercise, and medical attendance for the least ailment; in fact, everything is done to render imprisonment as little

irksome as possible to the fairly well-conducted characters. It would be otherwise with transportation. I do not consider long terms of imprisonment generally of much use: they are most costly, and it would be well if transportation could be substituted for the punishment of such criminals as it is necessary for the safety of the public to lock up for a long period, such as habitual house-breakers, highway robbers, and thieves.

There is a punishment to which many persons are averse—*corporal punishment.* This question has attracted the attention of the public, and while I would not recommend a too frequent use of the lash, as it usually marks the criminal for life, I think that strokes from a rattan or cane on the buttocks would inflict a certain amount of pain, leave no ill effects, and if administered just before the convict who has been punished leaves prison, he would bear to his village the temporary marks of his crime, and would be in a position to warn persons from in the like case offending.

With this limitation, the Indian Whipping Act, No. VI. of 1864, might be introduced, restricting the imposition of this kind of punishment to Magistrates who have passed the second examination, which fits them for confirmation as District Judges, and giving the Governor power to authorise the Magistrate of any particular division, who has not so passed, to inflict corporal punishment; for at present Police Magistrates cannot whip except in the case of juvenile offenders, and when prædial products are stolen. I feel sure that one month's *really* rigorous imprisonment on spare diet with twenty strokes with a rattan or cane the day before the offender is released would do more to put a stop to theftuous acts and use of the knife than sentences of the usual long terms of imprisonment without the cane being administered. As we have introduced the Indian Procedure Code, *mutatis mutandis*, it seems to me that it would be as well to introduce some portions of the Indian Evidence Acts, Nos. I. of 1872 and XVIII. of 1872. I will deal with the Acts on a future occasion.

I have long regretted that the court of Kalmunai has been entirely closed. I had a long experience of the criminal work of the Eastern Province, having been at Batticaloa from June, 1868, to 1874, and from 1875 to 1878, besides having been in charge of the criminal work of that district from 1868 up to date, except when absent on leave, and during 1885 when acting as District Judge of Kandy. I would not recommend the re-opening of the court, but I think that the Batticaloa Magistrate should visit Kalmunai once a month with his interpreter and one clerk to hear criminal charges instituted by the inhabitants of the villages about two miles north of Kalmunai, and by the inhabitants of villages south of Kalmunai. The cases could either be instituted at Batticaloa or during the presence of the Magistrate at Kalmunai. I feel sure this would be advantageous, for it can hardly be expected that witnesses will *ex debito justitiæ* tramp to Batticaloa, a distance of twenty-five miles, to give evidence before the Police Court, knowing that no batta is payable to witnesses on the criminal side of the District Court.

Crown Counsel's Office,
February 10, 1888.

CHAS. HAY,
Crown Counsel.

APPENDIX.

A.—Appeals to the Supreme Court from 1883 to 1887 from District and Police Courts throughout the Island.

	District Courts.	Police Courts.	Total.
1883 ...	106 ...	1,152 ...	1,258
1884 ...	102 ...	1,090 ...	1,192
1885 ...	56 ...	366 ...	422
1886 ...	56 ...	369 ...	425
1887 ...	61 ...	383 ...	444

B and C.—Cases tried before the Supreme and District Courts in the Western Circuit from 1883 to 1887.

	Supreme Court.					District Courts.				
	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.
Colombo.										
Old Procedure	130	138	80	3	—	68	65	16	—	—
New Procedure	—	—	62	74	64	—	—	54	80	65
Total ...	130	138	142	77	64	68	65	70	80	65
Negombo.										
Old Procedure	13	10	10	—	—	69	60	4	—	—
New Procedure	—	—	—	12	17	—	—	35	50	46
Total ...	13	10	10	12	17	69	60	39	50	46
Ratnapura.										
Old Procedure	23	26	17	1	—	37	27	9	—	—
New Procedure	—	—	17	31	29	—	—	13	25	17
Total ...	23	26	34	32	29	37	27	22	25	17
Kalutara.										
Old Procedure	40	64	16	—	—	93	125	18	2	—
New Procedure	—	—	17	40	28	—	—	52	75	79
Total ...	40	64	33	40	28	93	125	70	77	79
Total Tried.										
Old Procedure	206	238	123	4	—	267	277	37	2	—
New Procedure	—	—	117	157	138	—	—	154	230	207
Grand Total ...	206	238	240	161	138	267	277	191	232	207

D.—Showing Number of Cases and Persons tried in the Supreme Court in the Western Circuit in 1887.

	Cases.					Persons.				
	No.	Guilty.	Not guilty.	With-drawn.	Other-wise disposed of.	No.	Guilty.	Not guilty.	With-drawn.	Other-wise disposed of.
Colombo ...	64	41	19	4*	—	96	63	28	5*	—
Negombo ...	17	14	3	—	—	32	20	12	—	—
Ratnapura ...	29	16	11	2†	—	59	33	21	4	1
Kalutara ...	28	16	10	1	1‡	43	22	19	1	1‡
Total ...	138	87	43	7	1	230	138	80	10	2

* Two cases, because accused convicted in other cases. One case accused dead. One case accused too sick to stand his trial, other accused were acquitted.
† One case accused had been twice tried, jury could not agree. One case a material witness being absent.
‡ Deaf and dumb unable to plead, remanded till His Excellency's pleasure be known.

E.—Showing Number of Cases and Persons tried in the District Courts in the Western Circuit in 1887.

	Cases.			Persons.		
	Number.	Guilty.	Not Guilty.	Number.	Guilty.	Not Guilty.
Colombo ...	65	36	29	84	52	32
Negombo ...	46	37	9	74	55	19
Ratnapura ...	17	11	6	25	11	14
Kalutara ...	79	50	29	159	84	75
Total ...	207	134	73	342	202	140

G.—Showing Cases of Serious Crimes tried in the Supreme and District Courts in the Western Circuit from 1883 to 1887.

Year.	Supreme Court.	District Courts.	Total.
1883 ...	206 ...	267 ...	473
1884 ...	238 ...	277 ...	515
1885 ...	240 ...	191 ...	431
1886 ...	161 ...	232 ...	393
1887 ...	138 ...	207 ...	345

H and I.—Cases tried before the Supreme and District Courts in the Northern Circuit from 1883 to 1887.

	Supreme Courts.					District Courts.				
	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.
*Jaffna.**										
Old Procedure	17	33	9	—	—	29	63	12	—	—
New Procedure	—	—	11	7	9	—	—	26	15	19
Total ...	17	33	20	7	9	29	63	38	15	19
Mannár.†										
Old Procedure	1	—	2	—	—	2	2	—	—	—
New Procedure	—	—	4	—	3	—	—	1	2	—
Total ...	1	—	6	—	3	2	2	1	2	—
Mullaittivu.†										
Old Procedure	1	—	3	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
New Procedure	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	—
Total ...	1	—	3	—	2	—	1	1	1	—
Vavuṇiyá-Viláṇkulam.†										
Old Procedure	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
New Procedure	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	1
Total ...	—	—	1	—	1	1	1	—	1	1
Trincomalee.†										
Old Procedure	2	2	—	—	—	1	6	—	—	—
New Procedure	—	—	1	1	5	—	—	3	8	3
Total ...	2	2	1	1	5	1	6	3	8	3
Battícaloa.†										
Old Procedure	18	12	7	—	1	18	14	9	—	—
New Procedure	—	—	1	8	11	—	—	11	34	11
Total ...	18	12	8	8	12	18	14	20	34	11
Total.										
Old Procedure	39	47	21	—	—	51	97	22	—	
New Procedure	—	—	18	15	32	—	—	41	61	34
Grand Total ...	39	47	39	15	32	51	97	63	61	34

* Includes divisions of Jaffna, Mallákam, Chávakachchéri, Kayts, and Point Pedro. † Not divided.

K.—Showing Number of Cases tried in the Supreme Court in the Northern Circuit in 1887.

	Cases.				Persons.			
	No.	Guilty.	Not guilty.	Withdrawn.	No	Guilty.	Not guilty.	Withdrawn.
Jaffna	15	9	6	—	30	11	19	—
Trincomalee	5	4	1	—	11	6	4	1
Batticaloa	12	8	3	1	21	10	9	2
Total	32	21	10	1	62	27	32	3

L.—Showing Number of Cases and Persons tried in the District Courts in the Northern Circuit in 1887.

	Cases.			Persons.		
	No.	Guilty.	Not guilty.	No.	Guilty.	Not guilty.
Jaffna	19	14	5	61	26	35
Mánnár	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mullaittí vu	—	—	—	—	—	—
Vavuṇiya-Vilaṇkulam	1	1	—	3	2	1
Trincomalee	3	3	—	5	4	1
Batticaloa	11	9	2	14	12	2
Total	34	27	7	83	44	39

M.—Showing Cases of Serious Crimes tried in the Supreme and District Courts in the Northern Circuit from 1883 to 1887.

Year.	Supreme Court.	District Courts.	Total.
1883	39	51	90
1884	47	97	144
1885	39	63	102
1886	15	61	76
1887	32	34	66

O.—Culpable Homicides of both Classes.

Colombo.

ON November 7, 1886, one Hendrick struck one Joseph Fernando on the head with a club during a quarrel. The accused was tried for culpable homicide not amounting to murder on January 12, 1887, and was acquitted.

2. On November 6, 1886, one Pedru Fernando stabbed one Madelain Fernando because she would not marry him. He was tried for murder on January, 12, 1887, was convicted, sentenced to death, and executed.

3. On November 9, 1886, one Sidoris stabbed one Jeconis during a quarrel. The accused was on January 24, 1887, tried for culpable homicide not amounting to murder, was convicted, and sentenced to ten months' rigorous imprisonment.

4. On November 27, 1886, one Carolis was charged, while the worse for liquor, with stabbing one Appu Sinno in consequence of a gambling quarrel. The accused was tried for murder on January 18, 1886, and was acquitted.

5. On October 23, 1886, one Handuralla struck one Daniel Botajoo on the head with a rice pounder during a dispute about the ownership of a garden. The accused was on January 17, 1887, tried for murder, and was found guilty of culpable homicide not amounting to murder, and sentenced to eighteen months' rigorous imprisonment.

6. On June 16, 1886, Podi Sinno, Robo Sinno, Puncha, Jeronis, and others entered into a paṇsala and looted it. During the robbery the resident priest, Sóbita Terunnánse, was murdered. The accused were tried for murder, house-breaking by night with intent to commit theft, and with causing hurt while so engaged. They were on January 20, 1887, convicted under sections 443 and 446, and were sentenced to twenty years' rigorous imprisonment.

7. On November 13, 1886, one Gregoris was shot, it was alleged, by one Jalentuhami, the second accused Jaytua being present and aiding the first accused, the first and second being instigated to commit the said murder by one Dingeri Ettana, the wife of the deceased. The motive alleged for the murder was that the first accused was the paramour of the third accused. The jury acquitted the second and third accused, but could not agree as regarded the first accused. The jury was discharged, and the prisoner was remanded till the next session (see No. 1, Ratnapura).

8. On December 28, 1886, William Sinno, Babo Sinno Appu, Lorenis Appu, Mathes Appu, Sinno Appu, Cornelis vel-vidáné, and Sidoris Appu, or some of them, had a quarrel with one Johannes. During the quarrel Johannes sustained injuries, from which he died. The evidence was most unsatisfactory, so that all the men were acquitted on May 5, 1887, of murder.

9. On December 31, 1886, one Banda struck an old woman called Apolina with a bill-hook, inflicting a fatal wound on her skull. It seems that the deceased and the accused had a quarrel: the deceased seized the accused by his private parts and squeezed them, whereupon the accused gave the deceased a blow with the bill-hook he had in his hand. The accused was charged with culpable homicide not amounting to murder, and was acquitted on May 2, 1887, probably on the ground of the provocation and pain caused to the accused by the deceased.

10. On January 22, 1887, one Podi Sinno Appu was murdered by being stabbed. Three men, Peris Appu, Sardiel Appu, and Francis Appu, were charged with the murder on May 12, 1887. They were very properly acquitted. The witnesses clearly had not seen the offence committed, as it was quite dark when the deceased was stabbed. The object of the murder does not appear in the proceedings.

11. On February 19, 1887, one Simon shot one Podi Sinno, who died shortly after from the effects of the gunshot wounds. It was clear that the accused and the deceased were fighting. The jury on May 9, 1887, found that the gun went off accidentally: hence the accused was acquitted.

12. On February 7, 1887, one Nantilia Silva shot one Abel Appu while stealing cocoanuts from the trees of a garden in his charge. The accused was on May 3, 1887, tried for murder, but the jury convicted him of culpable homicide not amounting to murder, and was sentenced to eighteen months' rigorous imprisonment.

13. On December 28, 1887, one Hend Appu with a katti killed his wife Pody, her sister Senatchy, and his son Harmanis. The accused, who had been drinking, had some words with his wife. In consequence he seems to have committed the triple murder. He feigned madness, but after a long trial was on July 13, 1887, convicted of murder and sentenced to death. He was executed.

14. On March 1, 1887, one Jelakey Fernando pushed one Joran Perera into a paddy field full of liquid mud. The deceased was suffocated by the mud. The accused was tried on July 14, 1887, and convicted of culpable homicide not amounting to murder, and was sentenced to eighteen months' rigorous imprisonment.

15. For details of this case see No. 7 and No. 1 Ratnapura. The accused Jalentuhami having been twice tried, and the jury being unable to agree upon a verdict, it was not considered desirable to put him on his trial for the third time.

16. On March 1, 1887, one Appuwa caused the death of Sidappu by stabbing him. It seems that the accused was asleep in the deceased's house. The deceased about dawn tried to awaken the accused to go out with him to attend to their joint cultivation, whereupon the accused jumped up and stabbed the deceased. On July 18, 1887, the jury acquitted the accused on the ground that he was not fully awake when he committed the crime.

17. On March 31, 1887, one William Silva met one Konnu on the road at Kollupitiya. A quarrel ensued, and Konnu struck William Silva on the head with a stick. From the effect of the injuries he died about a week afterwards. On July 14, 1887, the accused was convicted of culpable homicide not amounting to murder, and was sentenced to ten years' rigorous imprisonment.

18. On April 20, 1887, one Pieris stabbed one Sinnappu with a knife. Sinnappu died almost immediately. There was a row between the accused and the deceased, and during the row the accused, a youth of about seventeen years of age, stabbed the deceased. The accused was on July 21, 1887, convicted and sentenced to death. The sentence was commuted to twenty years' rigorous imprisonment. This was clearly not a case for carrying out the extreme penalty of the law, owing to the youth of the convict and the facts of the case.

19. On February 14 one Ambrose (and another man still at large) struck one Jeronis Peris on the head with a club. From the effects of the blow he died. On July 15, 1887, the accused was tried by the Chief Justice and an English-speaking jury. Mr. H. W. Green, the foreman, came into court and said that the verdict was *non proven*. The Chief Justice said that such a verdict could not be received. The foreman then returned a verdict of not guilty. After signing the verdict, and after the prisoner had left the dock, it was discovered that the foreman was mistaken in his verdict, as there were only five for an acquittal with four for a conviction; whereas, being a capital case, a majority of two-thirds was required; that is to say, six to three. Whereupon the prisoner was recalled, the jury discharged, and the prisoner remanded for trial till the next session (see No. 25, Colombo).

20. On May 19, 1887, one Bahanis, during a dispute about a boundary, threw a stone at one Delichia, which caused his death. The accused was convicted on July 18, 1887, of culpable homicide not amounting to murder, and was sentenced to eighteen months' rigorous imprisonment.

21. On May 18 one Bastian Appu struck one Baronchy Appu with a stick while they were both drunk. The blow broke deceased's leg. From the effects of the fracture the deceased died. The case depended entirely upon the evidence of the deceased, who died about a fortnight after the blow. On July 12, 1887, the jury acquitted the prisoner.

22. On December 14, 1885, Sellambaran lay in wait and stabbed one Luis Fernando in consequence of a prior dispute. On September 27, 1887, the accused was found guilty of murder, sentenced to death, and executed.

23. Pambris Silva, Sadris Silva, and Rokinu Silva were charged with killing one Edeni Silva on February 25, 1887, by striking him on the head with a club. This was a very doubtful case, and the evidence at the trial on September 26, 1887, was very unsatisfactory. The accused were charged with murder, but were acquitted.

24. The jury could not agree: the prisoner was remanded till the following session (see No. 26, Colombo).

25. This is the case referred to in No. 19, Colombo. The cause of the assault was a previous quarrel. In this case the police tried to help the accused by stating that his name was not given at the police station, where the complaint was made immediately after the assult. This was clearly untrue. The accused was convicted of murder and sentenced to death. He was executed.

26. On June 9, 1887, Podiappu struck one Honni Appu with an axe on the head. The deceased died very soon after. The accused was tried for murder on November 18, 1887, but was convicted of culpable homicide not amounting to murder, and sentenced to seven years' rigorous imprisonment.

27. On July 24, 1887, Hendrik Appu and Johannes Appu appear to have had a quarrel with Migel Fernando. During the quarrel they beat him and ruptured his spleen. From the effects he died. On December 1, 1887, the accused was convicted of culpable homicide not amounting to murder, and was sentenced to three years' rigorous imprisonment.

28. On September 3, 1887, one Swaris Appu caused the death of one Patummah by driving a bullock cart over her body. On November 10 he was charged with causing the death of the said Patummah by negligently driving the said cart, in breach of section 298. The jury acquitted him, as they were of opinion that he had lost control over the bullocks owing to no fault of his own.

29. During the night of August 19, 1887, one Hendrick Naide and others were engaged in endeavouring to commit the crime of house-breaking by night with intent to steal. One Podi Sinho, while assisting Don Amaris, police vidâné, in arresting the house-breakers, was stabbed by Hendrick Naide, the wound proving fatal. The accused was tried on December 2, 1887, for murder, convicted, and sentenced to death. He was executed.

30. On May 28, 1887, two persons, Johanna Perera and her father Gregoris Perera, were in a single bullock cart driving along the road from Colombo to Negombo. Just after the cart had passed the body of a newly-born infant was found on the road. The bullock cart was pursued and stopped: in it was found an after-birth, the woman's legs and cloth being soiled with fresh blood. It was further proved that the woman had been lately delivered of a child. The father and daughter were charged with murder on November 15, but were acquitted, as the jury were apparently not satisfied that the child was born alive.

31. On September 1, 1887, Adambawa shot one Punchi Appu. He was on November 29, 1887, acquitted of breach of section 298, the jury believing that the gun went off accidentally.

32. On July 4, 1887, one Sinno Naide shot his brother Punchi Naide under circumstances clearly amounting to murder. The deceased and accused had several disputes about the boundary of their lands. On July 3 the accused had put up a fence; the deceased on July 4 began pulling it down. The accused told him to desist from doing so, but as he continued pulling down the fence the accused, after threatening to shoot him, went into the house, brought out a gun, and shot his brother dead. The jury on November 18, 1887, found the accused guilty of culpable homicide not amounting to murder, and he was sentenced to fifteen years' rigorous imprisonment.

33. On October 6 one Peter Fernando and one Sedatchy had a fight, and while so engaged the deceased, who was a strong man, was stabbed by the accused, a mere lad. On November 28, 1887, the accused was acquitted of culpable homicide not amounting to murder.

34. On October 4, 1887, one Carolis Appu, a butcher by trade, cut the throat of one Pattuma, who was cohabiting with him as mistress, owing to some quarrel they had. The accused said the cause of the quarrel was because she allowed other men to come to her house. On November 17, 1887, he was convicted of murder, the jury recommending him to mercy. He was sentenced to death, and has been executed. There were no reasonable grounds for the recommendation to mercy, as the murder was a most deliberate one: the knife with which the wound was inflicted was the one he usually used in his shop to cut up meat.

Ratnapura.

1. On November 13, 1886, one Gregoris was shot. Jalentuhamy and two others, Jayatuma and Dingiri Ettana, were charged with committing the offence. Jayatuma and Dingiri Ettana (wife of Gregoris, the deceased) were acquitted (see No. 7 of Colombo). Jalentuhami was again put on his trial on May 25, 1887, as at the former trial the jury could not agree. At this trial, the evidence was not at all satisfactory. The witnesses contradicted their statements made at the first trial, so much so that considerable doubt was created in my mind as to whether the shot was fired by the accused or by the man Jayatuma, who had been acquitted. Again the jury could not agree, and they were discharged, the accused being remanded into the custody of the Fiscal.

2. On April 8, 1886, one Slema Lebbe Ahamadu Lebbe was brutally murdered. Two men were charged with the murder, Denis Naide and Kiri Banda. Kiri Banda was discharged, and Denis Naide was tried and convicted in 1886, and was executed. Subsequently, Kiri Banda was again arrested. He was tried on May 21, 1887, convicted, sentenced to death, and executed. The object of the murder was to obtain a quantity of money and jewels possessed by the deceased. He, the deceased, was induced to go to Denis Naide's house, and his throat was there cut, and his body was then buried in a jungle near at hand. Fortunately for the ends of justice a passer-by had seen the deceased on the floor of the verandah and the accused standing over him. He gave information which led to the arrest and conviction of both the accused.

3. On January 16, 1887, one Don Andris had a dispute with one Sinha Heen Appu about some paddy. During the quarrel Don Andris stabbed Sinha Heen Appu. The accused was tried on May 23, 1887 for murder, but found guilty of culpable homicide not amounting to murder, and was sentenced to twenty years' rigorous imprisonment.

4. On January 24, 1887, during a dispute about the right to use certain cattle for ploughing, one Sirahami was stabbed by one Balanchia. On May 20, 1887, he was charged with culpable homicide not amounting to murder, was convicted, and sentenced to ten years' rigorous imprisonment.

5. On June 14, 1887, one Sanchy Hami's throat was cut. One Madilis was charged with the offence. He was on October 4, 1887, tried for murder, and acquitted. I considered the verdict wrong, though the Chief Justice approved of it. Madilis had been brought up by the deceased, but of late years had been suffering from leprosy. He was for a long time in the leper hospital near Colombo. A few weeks before the murder he returned to the deceased's village, and as he was still covered with sores the deceased would not allow him to live in her house. He therefore threatened to kill her, and did so.

6. On July 25, 1887, one Anradahami was stabbed by one Pellanu Appuhami during a quarrel. The accused was on October 5, 1887, charged with murder. His plea of guilty of culpable homicide not amounting to murder was accepted, and was sentenced to six years' rigorous imprisonment.

Kalutara.

1. On January 19, 1887, one Podihami died from the effects of a gunshot wound. On June 6, 1887, Kirineris was charged with firing the fatal shot. No motive was assigned. The prisoner was acquitted.

2. On April 15, 1886, one Thegeris died from the effects of some wounds caused apparently with a knife. One Appuwa was charged with the murder. The evidence was most unsatisfactory. Mr. Justice Dias entirely discredited the whole story, so that on June 2, 1887, the accused was acquitted of murder. There was a former trial in 1886 in connection with this case. Appuwa's brother was then charged. Appuwa was not tried as he could not be found; the then accused was convicted of murder on what appeared to me to be false evidence. He was sentenced to death, but the sentence was commuted. My former opinion is confirmed that the evidence at the first trial was a tissue of lies.

3. On June 28, 1887, one Martin Fernando died from the effects of some stab wounds. It was proved that there was a drunken row near a tavern, and that one Naide was there; and it was alleged that he inflicted the fatal wounds. Naide was tried on December 7, 1887, on a charge of culpable homicide not amounting to murder, and was acquitted, as there was not satisfactory proof that the accused gave the stabs from the effects of which the deceased died, or indeed was any party to the assault.

4. On August 10, 1887, one Konu Appu was found dead at the foot of a cocoanut tree. One Gregoris was charged with killing the deceased with a stick. The deceased, when found stealing cocoanuts, attacked the accused. On December 1, 1887, the accused was tried on a charge of culpable homicide not amounting to murder, and was acquitted, the jury believing that he acted in self-defence.

5. On August 11, 1887, Abraham Peris was killed by one Amaris Appu during a quarrel. The accused struck the deceased with an axe. He was on December 5, 1887, tried and convicted of murder, and being sentenced to death was executed. This was a very painful case fearfully illustrating the ferocious nature of some village boys. A mere boy, after the deceased was felled, went with a chisel and inflicted such wounds as would probably have proved fatal had the blow from the axe not proved so immediately. The boy was convicted of attempting to commit murder.

Jaffna.

1. On April 9, 1886, one Muttu Karuppan struck one Migael with a stick on the leg. The bone was fractured by the blow; the man died a few weeks afterwards. The accused was on February 18, 1887, tried on a charge of culpable homicide not amounting to murder and was acquitted, as the doctor deposed that under ordinary circumstances the blow would not have caused death, but it was fatal owing to the diseased state of the man's body.

2. On December 8, 1886, one Supper was beaten to death owing to a gambling quarrel. Tomis Appu, Alakan, and Karuppen were charged with culpable homicide not amounting to murder. On February 18, 1887, the first accused was found guilty of voluntarily causing grievous hurt, and was sentenced to six years' rigorous imprisonment; the second accused was acquitted, and the third was found guilty of assault, and was sentenced to three months' rigorous imprisonment.

3. On November 16, 1886, a newly-born infant was found in a pool near Mullaittívu. Sinnakutti, who was alleged to be the mother, was charged with murder. On February 11, 1887, she was acquitted. I do not think that the evidence that the child found was that of the prisoner was clear enough to justify a conviction.

4. On June 4, 1886, one Velase was killed by a blow of a club. The only eye-witness was the son of the deceased. His evidence was clearly not credible, so that on February 12, 1887, the accused was acquitted of murder.

5. On November 2, 1887, two boys, Murugaser and Supprumaniam, were murdered at the Kandasamy Kovil near Nallúr. The evidence shows that Tambo and Sellappah gave some of the fatal wounds. Nine men were put on their trial on September 12 and 13, 1887, on a charge of murdering Supprumaniam. Seven men were acquitted, but two were convicted of murder and sentenced to death.

I believe that the murder arose out of quarrels between Tinnevely and Kandarmadam lads, and that it was not premeditated. The evidence against the two men who were convicted was most unreliable, and I am glad that His Excellency was pleased to commute the sentence to twenty years' rigorous imprisonment. The chief men engaged in the murder have fled from justice.

6. On February 6, 1887, one Phillipu had a quarrel with one Anthony. Anthony struck Phillipu on the head with a stick. The accused was tried on September 18, 1887, for culpable homicide not amounting to murder. He was convicted, and sentenced to one year's rigorous imprisonment.

7. On January 3, 1887, one Murandan killed one Ramasamy. The evidence was entirely of a circumstantial nature. It was supposed that the deceased was killed during a mutual row. The accused was on February 14, 1887, tried for culpable homicide not amounting to murder, was convicted, and sentenced to one year's rigorous imprisonment.

8. On September 5, 1887, Mahamado Kader Saibo and Alla Pitchie had a quarrel with one Abdul Cader about the ownership of a lot of firewood. During the quarrel Abdul Cader received some blows, from the effects of which he died on September 12, 1887, at Mannár. On September 17, 1887, the accused were tried at Jaffna for culpable homicide not amounting to murder. The second accused was acquitted. The first was convicted, and was sentenced to eight years' rigorous imprisonment. Thus the time between the assault and trial were only twelve days.

South Batticaloa.

1. On February 14, 1883, one Kandappen, seeing his father Ramakutte being assaulted by his brother Nakapper, stabbed his uncle Nakapper. The accused at once fled from justice, and was not arrested till August, 1887. He was tried on September 22, 1887, for manslaughter, was convicted, and sentenced to ten years' rigorous imprisonment.

2. On March 7, 1887, one Nagamani had a dispute with one Kanapati about the ownership of a field. Nagamani struck Kanapati on the head with a stick, from the effects of which he died that very day. Nagamani was on September 22, 1887, tried for culpable homicide not amounting to murder, was convicted, and sentenced to six years' rigorous imprisonment.

REPORT OF THE CROWN COUNSEL FOR THE MIDLAND CIRCUIT.

I HAVE not much to add to the report of last year. I annex three tables, A, B, and C.

The District and Police Courts continue to give considerable relief to the Supreme Court in its criminal jurisdiction.

There has been an excess in the number of trials before the Supreme Court in 1887 over the number tried in 1886. It is, however, slight, and considerably below the number tried in 1885:

	1885.	1886.	1887.
Supreme Court ...	138	65	74
District Court, Kandy ...	82	75	97
Do. Anurádhapura ...	14	6	17
Do. Badulla ...	25	19	16
Do. Kégalla ...	37	24	18
Total, District Courts ...	158	124	148
Total, District and Supreme Courts	296	189	222

There has also been an increase (as expected and stated in my last report) in the work of the Kandy District Court; yet the cases tried in the Supreme as well as District Courts in this Circuit in 1887 show a decrease when compared with the numbers tried in 1885.

Crime is doubtless prevalent, but I do not think it has at all increased, either appreciably or disproportionately. The state of things, as existing during several past years, has certainly not changed for the worse; and I am inclined to believe that the Criminal Statistics for the Midland Circuit will show, as time goes by, a more satisfactory and healthy condition.

Of the 97 cases tried before the Kandy District Court, 44 (very nearly half) were cases of hurt, where the knife, always ready at hand, had been used recklessly, and more or less savagely, on the slightest provocation. Some measure ought, I think, to be adopted to put an end to or restrain this constant and reckless use of the knife in every trumpery village quarrel; and nothing would be so effectual as corporal punishment. The courts are, however, now powerless, as far as whipping is concerned, in cases of assault, excepting in cases of grievous hurt on women or children.

There has hardly been any case of burglary to speak of in the *chief towns* of this Circuit during the past year. Indeed our towns are comparatively free from burglars. There were one or two cases in the native part of this town, where the back premises were broken into and a few brass articles stolen; and a case of house-breaking by the lakeside, committed or connived at by a servant of the house.

The only case of any importance was the theft of valuable jewellery belonging to Sir Samuel Baker from a hotel in Nuwara Eliya, which yet remains undetected.

I regret to notice the increase of cattle-stealing in the Kégalla and Galagedara districts. Both these districts are on the borders of the Seven Kóralés, where cattle lifting is rampant. Galagedara was comparatively free from this nuisance in 1885 and 1886, but I find 48 cases were tried in 1887. Cattle-stealing was bad enough in the Kégalla district during the previous years, but in 1887 there has been a still greater increase, and I am afraid the Four Kóralés is also the hotbed of cattle lifters.

The stringent measures now being enforced against cattle stealers in the North-Western Province will, I trust, have the desired effect on that province, as also in the districts on its borders.

There is one other thing I would suggest for your consideration. Under the Penal Code *all cases* of forgery, arson, defamation, and highway robbery after nightfall are triable only by the Supreme Court. I could understand important cases of this description being sent before the highest tribunal; but there are cases of such a trivial nature—such as forgery of a receipt for a small sum of money, or an order for the delivery of goods of a trifling value; the burning of a cadjan or straw-thatched hut worth a few rupees; the defamation of a man of hardly any reputation, as in the case of a carter sent before the Supreme Court last year from Hatton; the highway robbery of a few coppers or goods of a trifling value—which may well be disposed of in the District or even the Police Courts. This can very easily be remedied by adding the words "District Court" to the schedule in the Procedure Code, and the discretion left to the Attorney-General to select, according to his judgment, the court in which such cases should be tried, having regard to the slight or heinous nature of the offence. Cases of defamation should be made punishable by simple as well as rigorous imprisonment, according to the discretion of the court.

OWEN MORGAN,
Crown Counsel.

APPENDIX.

A.—Cases tried before the Supreme Court in the Midland Circuit from 1883 to 1887.

Kandy.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.
Old Procedure ...	219	208	51	4	2
New Procedure ...	—	—	87	61	72
Total ...	219	208	138	65	74

B.—Cases tried before the District Courts in the Midland Circuit from 1883 to 1887.

	Old Procedure.		New Procedure.		
	Ordinary Cases.	Theft of Cattle.	Ordinary Cases.	Theft of Cattle.	Total.
Kandy.					
1883	50	39	—	—	89
1884	40	29	—	—	69
1885	19	5	48	10	82
1886	1	—	72	2	75
1887	—	—	97	—	97
Anurádhapura.					
1883	5	3	—	—	8
1884	2	4	—	—	6
1885	2	—	10	2	14
1886	—	—	4	2	6
1887	—	—	17	—	17
Kęgalla.					
1883	44	21	—	—	65
1884	23	17	—	—	40
1885	—	—	22	15	37
1886	—	—	24	—	24
1887	—	—	17	1	18
Badulla.					
1883	43	10	—	—	53
1884	20	13	—	—	33
1885	3	—	13	9	25
1886	—	—	19	—	19
1887	—	—	16	—	16

C.—Theft of Cattle tried in Police Courts.

	1885.	1886.	1887.
Kandy District.			
Kandy	28	33	28
Galagedara	6	5	48
Mátalé	49	35	27
Paṇwila and Urugala	18	12	16
Gampola	3	13	16
Pussęlláwa	—	1	—
Maturaṭa and Nuwara Eliya	20	23	9
Hatton	—	4	1
Total	124	126	147
Badulla District.			
Badulla	23	38	32
Haldummulla	9	7	10
Total	32	45	42
Kęgalla and Anurádhapura District.			
Kęgalla	110	96	128
Anurádhapura	20	4	29
Total	130	100	157

REPORT OF THE CROWN COUNSEL FOR THE SOUTHERN CIRCUIT.

REFERRING to your letter No. 25 of the 9th instant, I have the honour to enclose the report called for by you.

1. It shows that before the new Code came into operation the total number of cases both in the Supreme Court and in the District Court was the same, viz., 281 in 1883 and 1884. With the year 1885 the new Codes came into operation. The total for 1885 shows an increase of 9 cases in both courts. In the year 1886 the total for the Supreme Court and the District Courts decreased by 45 when compared with 1885, but in 1887 the total for the Supreme Court and the three District Courts showed an increase of 7 cases over the year 1886. The relief to the Supreme Court is clearly indicated in the following totals: for 1883, total 41; in 1884, total 75; in 1885, total 74; in 1886, total 64; and in 1887, total 54.

2. The practical working of the Ceylon Penal Code has, therefore, not increased the business of the Supreme Court.

3. The following is the return showing the number of cases tried in the Supreme Court and in the District Courts within this Circuit in 1887 and the four previous years:—

Supreme Court:—	Old Procedure.	New Procedure.	Total.
1883	41	—	41
1884	75	—	75
1885	32	42	74
1886	4	60	64
1887	2	52	54

District Court :—	Old Procedure.	New Procedure.	Total.
1883 ...	160	—	160
1884 ...	126	—	126
1885 ...	51	85	136
1886 ...	—	101	101
1887 ...	—	118	118

4. The statistics of crime in the whole Circuit will compare favourably with those of other parts of the Island in reference to the proportion of population. Statistics are sometimes erroneously added together. Thus, the report of the Registrar-General on the vital statistics of the third quarter has the following paragraph :—

Murders and Executions.—Twenty deaths are attributed this quarter to murders and other forms of homicide. The Southern Province is responsible for 14 out of the 20, Galle district alone claiming as many as 11. Of the 11 deaths, 7 were the victims of probably the most atrocious murder recorded in Ceylon in recent times, 2 European ladies and 5 Siphalese servants (male and female), being murdered by an immigrant cooly on that night on which the Queen's jubilee was celebrated in Ceylon.

This account is altogether incorrect. The Jubilee day was on June 28, 1887, and the seven deaths occurred, therefore, in the *second* quarter of last year. The proportion of deaths, therefore, for which the Southern Province was responsible should be reduced by seven. No European life was taken, as above stated. The seven deaths were caused by the murderer Muttusamy when he was under the influence of arrack, and though legally responsible, unable to control himself or even to remember afterwards the whole of what he had done. He stated before his execution that he had only lately formed the habit of using spirits, by seeing the use of it by others and by being employed to procure it for another.

This is an illustration of the great fact that a large proportion of the culpable homicides committed in Ceylon arises from the easy access to cheap intoxicating liquors.

The arrack manufacture is really a loss to the cocoanut growers and indirectly a revenual loss to Government; and if a census of trees can be taken and a tax imposed on all toddy trees, illicit distillers will be effectually reached, and the produce of the cocoanut diverted into healthy channels of trade.

On November 12, 1884, I made a special report on this point to Mr. W. E. T. Sharpe, Government Agent, proposing a new system of distillation, a tax on all toddy-producing trees, and a preliminary census of all cocoanut-bearing trees. It has been my experience that the use of arrack is directly or indirectly the cause of a very large proportion of culpable homicides; and I may truly add that the use of it lends encouragement to many burglaries and robberies. If the numerous cases of grievous hurts following in the excitement from using cheap spirits are added, the consequent expense to Government in the administration of justice and maintenance of jails will be appreciated.

Another cause of crime is the want of employment. The lower classes of the population are naturally indisposed to labour, and are surrounded by temptations to the theft of prædial produce. After being hastily emancipated from ancient customs of enforced labour before they have been educated in moral obligations, they have been unable to resist the temptation presented in novel articles of civilised use; and whenever settlers of European habits carry money or valuable articles amongst such a race of people, the temptation to steal and the criminal offence will follow. This temptation will always be less with a labour-loving people, whilst with those who are naturally slothful the administration of Government should include the enforcement of labour. This will include both a compulsory industrial and moral education of youth and a system of conscription, by which the earthwork of railways, roads, canals, embankments, reclamations, and drainage can be carried out at a very cheap cost to Government, whilst providing wholesome food and healthful work to a class of people who now only obtain them within the walls of a jail after being condemned for criminal offences. The terms of the conscription should include the provision of lines or barracks for working parties, and good substantial food beyond that which the conscripts can obtain in their own village. The time of labour and other conditions may be fixed with reference to the agricultural requirements and industries of each district. This will at once bring the population under control and restore them to habits of labour to which they were anciently accustomed, and improve their physical and moral condition. If the food and lodging provided is on the same scale as in the public jails, and good conduct rewarded with similar consequences as in the case of criminal prisoners, there will not be much sentimental objection; but the conscription will in time become popular. It will, in fact, be a liberal and improved form of the old "rájakáriya," which the people rendered according to custom without any of its objections. Crime is sure to be diminished by such a system and the whole character of the people changed.

It is not to be expected that reforms of this nature, however beneficial to the population, can be imposed on the mixed communities of the chief towns without opposition; but such opposition may be disarmed by the terms of the special legislation introducing these reforms in particular districts. Least objection will be raised to legislation of this kind, the object of which is to establish industrial villages or communities in remote and waste places, which are the property of the Crown, and in which grants of land may be apportioned subject to conditions of compulsory labour. The idle population of districts already settled may be drawn to these little colonies and disciplined to habits of regular labour. All throughout the Southern Province the original jungle lands, which in theory belonged to the Crown, have been encroached upon by squatters who have acquired title by possession. The policy of some officers of Government has been to encourage these encroachments, and this would be a humane and wise policy if the bringing of these jungle lands into cultivation were attended with sufficient difficulty to develop the energy of the people and steady habits of labour. Unfortunately, soil and climate alike have favoured easy results to the lightest labour and most primitive methods, and whilst the consciousness of being landowners has been a moral benefit, it has ended there; and food to sustain bare life is so readily obtained from the jak, breadfruit, and cocoanut, supplemented by occasional crops of sweet-potatoes, that there is no training in that continued labour which disciplines and gives a manly tone to the agricultural labour. The consequence is that, though villages may increase, the sentiment of respect for property is not developed. The young idlers of the villages help themselves to the food readily to hand in the

neighbour's gardens, and habits of thieving are formed at a young age. Immunity from punishment is assured to the stealer at nights, who makes it his regular business and who cannot be always watched, and thus thieving gradually grows to be a regular means of sustenance. The contagion spreads, and thieving ceases to be a profession and becomes a common vice. To meet such a social evil by Criminal Codes is an incomplete remedy. The preventive measures should be of a comprehensive character, and based on principles that will control the population morally and educate the people so as to change their character. In that character at present the sentiment of justice does not include any respect for the rights of property. And if the people are to be brought in contact with the products of civilised societies, the first temptation will be to steal. When Captain Cook first visited the islanders of the Pacific Ocean, the novelty of the objects presenting themselves on board at once excited this desire to steal, and this illustration will explain the thefts in domestic houses of Europeans and others living with the luxuries of civilisation, when servants unaccustomed to them are brought in contact with them without any of the precautions or safeguards of native house-keeping. Dwelling-houses are also constructed in such a manner, and the habits of fashionable life in towns are such, that the wonder is that thefts in dwelling-houses are not more common. Rural burglaries are due to similar causes. It is a remarkable feature in the cases of house-breaking that relatives of the complainants are often charged; if not truly, then only to prove the idea in the complainant's mind that such offences are not impossible. Petty cases of house-breaking and theft are heard of which never come before any criminal court. In cases of this kind little collections of clothing saved by poor persons, and of small value in themselves, are easily taken by thieves who break and enter the huts of the poor owners undetected, and after the first outburst of grief and a little gossip amongst the neighbours the subject is forgotten. If there is a village tribunal the complaint may happen to be recorded, but reliable evidence would not be forthcoming. All these considerations point to preventive legislation, and the question is, therefore, What is the legislation that would be preventive? It is beyond the Penal and Procedure Codes, and should take in hand the social and moral conditions of the people, and develop it properly in relation to the foreign influences with which it is brought into contact and for which it is unprepared. The most important point is to train the people and compel them to labour, and do it in such a manner as to show to them the profitableness of the labour. Together with this there should be compulsory education, including instruction by means of the vernacular, and industrial training with education in moral principles, such as respect for rights of property, for veracity, and for habits of temperance. All such measures towards such objects should be compulsory. The introduction of European enterprise has given the fairest opportunities for the voluntary development of moral improvement; but though, with the opening of tea estates and consequent demand for Siṇhalese labour, we can trace a relinquishment of cattle-stealing, we see a departure in the temptation to thefts of prædial products. The cry now is for severer punishment; but it would have been well if true preventive legislation and industrial education had preceded these new enterprises.

5. For the improvement of the administration of the criminal justice, and for securing more effectually the prevention as well as detection of crime, I can point out that all the reforms we have attempted have been in the higher administration of justice.

The careful organisation of the Ceylon Police Force and the organisation of a properly trained and well-paid village police have been indicated for many years. We have indications that the Ceylon Police Force has been improved of late, and, considering the weakness of the force compared with the work it is called upon to do, the first measure called for appears to be an increase in the number of constables, particularly in Colombo. In this connection what I have always advocated is the establishment of a Metropolitan Force dressed in Siṇhalese costume with distinguishing belts, on the old model of police peons abolished when Mr. Colepepper was brought out to reorganise the police force. For the regulation of street traffic and immediate detection of thefts in the streets, and for general detective purposes, an additional force of this kind without much drill and military discipline, recruited from respectable Siṇhalese, will be of vast assistance. In Colombo the Municipality may perhaps organise such a body, who can attend to some municipal duties also. In the rural districts the really respectable class of headmen are now too ignorant and old-fashioned to be of any use, and what is called for is a smaller body of trained Siṇhalese of a respectable status, and specially trained as rural inspectors and inquirers into offences. Unhappily the spread of English schools and the neglect of vernacular education is depriving us of promising young men who would, in a public department of the kind I have indicated, have an opportunity of distinguishing themselves and showing what can be done by the people of the country when properly directed. In a Siṇhalese district I would not exclude respectable European and Tamil descendants who can pass satisfactorily an examination in the vernacular of the district. The present system of unpaid headmen cannot be any longer tolerated, and they have begun to do more harm than good. It will be impossible by mere legislation to prevent crime unless the present system is abolished and a better one substituted, more in touch with the people, whilst having the aptitude of a special training for their duties.

6. As respects cattle-stealing, I may be allowed to mention that the use of the vouchers I drafted in July, 1872, when acting as District Judge of Galle, and recommended to the Government Agent of Galle, checked a large proportion of this offence, which was then carried on by means of headmen's vouchers, armed with which the holders of stolen cattle readily transferred them or accounted for their possession. That the printed vouchers designed by me did afford a check was proved by some stolen sheets of these kachchéri forms being found in a house, which was searched in the course of investigation of a Taṇgalla cattle-stealing case. I find that the Gaṇsabháwas in the Central Province have adopted these forms. I append copy of my letter No. 271 to the Government Agent forwarding the draft of the form (appendix A). When these vouchers are also initialled by an Assistant Agent and consecutively numbered in a counterfoil book before being issued to the headmen, they cannot be misused. Notwithstanding such precautions, detection may be evaded by receivers of stolen cattle. From information derived in the Negombo and Kurunégala districts I had reason to believe that stolen cattle were transferred wholesale, the cattle of one being exchanged for the cattle of the other district. I since learned that a similar transfer of cattle was carried on between the Balapiṭiya and the Kalutara districts. The difficulty of tracing cattle thus clandestinely carried into another Province is obvious, and the only remedy possible seems to be the

appointment of special itinerating officers, part of whose duty it will be to watch the borders of the districts. At present the jurisdiction given to the Police Magistrates is affording speedy justice to cattle owners, and cattle-stealing will be diminished in proportion in consequence of the new jurisdiction under the Codes. It is remarkable that in the district of Hambantoṭa, in which private proprietors hold the largest herds of cattle, institution of cattle cases have been least in number. This may be accounted for by the villages being distant from each other, and game being available for animal food.

The following is a comparative table of institutions :—

	Hambantoṭa.	Taṇgalla.	Mátara.	Galle.	Balapiṭiya.
1883 ...	2	103	114	122	84
1884 ...	4	132	101	105	88
1885 ...	2	90	152	141	133
1886 ...	4	151	223	144	138
1887 ...	3	135	215	127	168

In the returns of the summary disposal of cattle cases before 1885 the figures probably refer to cases of the unlawful possession of beef under the Ordinance No. 14 of 1859. Cattle-stealing cases are included from 1883 in the following table of cases summarily disposed of in the Police Courts :—

Year.	Hambantoṭa.		Taṇgalla.		Mátara.		Galle.		Balapiṭiya.	
	Convicted.	Acquitted	Convicted.	Acquitted	Convicted.	Acquitted	Convicted.	Acquitted	Convicted.	Acquitted
1883 ...	—	2	—	—	—	107	—	105	1	67
1884 ...	1	3	—	—	—	95	—	98	—	87
1885 ...	1	1	2	21	14	114	11	45	11	95
1886 ...	—	4	15	40	13	210	20	113	19	129
1887 ...	—	3	12	13	25	194	19	120	13	157

The large proportion of acquittals only exemplifies what is matter of experience to any one personally engaged in the administration of justice; namely, that whilst cattle-stealing exists the cases in court for the prosecution of this offence are generally supported by false or unreliable evidence. I think it more to the point in a report at this date to omit the figures representing commitments before the District Court and occasionally before the Supreme Court. The effect of the new jurisdiction has been to show that speedy and summary measures in the Police Court have had a more sensible effect than the larger powers of the Superior Courts. The effect of the schedule attached to the 18th chapter of the Penal Code, and its provision giving Police Courts jurisdiction if the value of the cattle does not exceed Rs. 50, is (as I have before remarked) virtually to give Police Courts an exclusive jurisdiction, and the results seem to prove that all theories for the very severe punishment of cattle-stealing have been more sentimental than scientific. In 1883 and 1884, taking the four districts of Galle, Mátara, Balapiṭiya, and Taṇgalla, the small proportion of the instituted cases committed before the Superior Courts is shown in the following instructive comparison. There were no such commitments in Hambantoṭa :—

	1883.	1884.
Galle :—		
Institutions ...	122	105
Commitments to District Court ...	14	3
Commitments to Supreme Court ...	—	1
Mátara :—		
Institutions ...	114	101
Commitments to District Court ...	4	2
Commitments to Supreme Court ...	—	—
Balapiṭiya :—		
Institutions ...	84	88
Commitments to District Court ...	18	9
Commitments to Supreme Court ...	1	—
Taṇgalla :—		
Institutions ...	103	132
Commitments to District Court ...	4	12
Commitments to Supreme Court ...	—	—

The other cases were, of course, dismissed in some way or other. I therefore feel bound again to report in favour of the summary jurisdiction of the Magistrates in cattle cases.

7. The discouragement of false evidence by the Magistrates generally throughout the Circuit has had a most beneficial effect. The administration of the police force has been efficient, and towns protected by the police have been remarkably free from house-breaking and similar offences. As remarked in the fourth paragraph, the statistics of crime in the whole Circuit will compare favourably with those of other parts of this Island.

Crown Counsel's Office,
Galle, January 26, 1888.

LOUIS NELL,
Crown Counsel.

APPENDIX.

The ACTING DISTRICT JUDGE, Galle, to the GOVERNMENT AGENT, Galle.

No. 271. District Court, Galle, July 1, 1872.

SIR,—I AM induced to represent to you the prevalence of cattle-stealing in the district falling within the jurisdiction of the District Court of Galle, in connection with the often unsatisfactory evidence upon which the punishment

of cattle stealers is attempted. One great check designed to secure evidence of the lawful transfer and ownership of cattle seems to have been rendered uncertain by the informal manner in which the headmen are allowed to carry it out. The 22nd clause of the Ordinance No. 14 of 1859 enacted that headmen who shall have attested a note or voucher accounting for the possession of cattle shall forward duplicates to the Police Court of the district for safe custody. I think that the enforcement of this legislative provision will be highly beneficial to the cattle owners and agriculturists of the district; and that in order to make it effectual, books of printed forms should be issued to the headmen, each book containing 50 or 100 forms or leaves, each leaf containing the form in duplicate, the duplicates divided from each other by perforations such as are used for separating adhesive stamps from each other, bank cheques from the counterfoils, and in many other forms to which the invention is now applied in Colombo. The forms in each book in both counterfoil and voucher should be numbered at the kachchéri, and bear the date when issued to the headmen, and the signature or initials of the Agent or Assistant. The headmen should be strictly enjoined not to use any other forms but these printed forms, and to apply in time for a fresh book when the one issued is nearly exhausted. The books may be produced monthly for inspection. Provision should be made for the recovery of the book on the death or dismissal of a headman.

Under such a system a person desirous of purchasing or about to receive cattle from another will have to obtain a voucher on a printed form, and to have it copied on the counterfoil. The voucher will *primâ facie* be a *bonâ fide* one, as it will be issued from the kachchéri, and it can be readily corroborated by the counterfoil.

I beg to append an example illustrating my views of what particulars would be necessary to be stated in the forms. I would suggest that all the printed parts of the form should be printed both in English and Sinhalese each, the respective lines to be joined by brackets, the headmen of course only filling in the blanks in Sinhalese.

It has come to my knowledge in a case lately tried before the District Court of Galle—and it was acknowledged by a respectable Muhandiram—that sham vouchers or certificates are now granted to searchers for stolen cattle to protect them if caught in possession after success in recovering. As the practice is irregular, the headman who has been induced to grant such a certificate will flatly deny he did so. It is not unusual for the voucher to be challenged as a forgery, and it is often difficult to pronounce on the genuineness of native documents. When questions of the kind are raised, cattle-stealing cases and civil actions for asserting ownership become elaborate and complicated.

Under the proposed system each headman will be bound to issue vouchers from his own book, every form in it being already numbered and attested at the kachchéri, and he will be bound to enter up the same voucher in the duplicate, which will continue to form part of the book which he is bound to produce for inspection and in evidence.

From your intimate knowledge of the Sinhalese people, I venture to express the belief that you will admit that such a system will conduce, if not to the immediate diminution of cattle-stealing, to the prevention of fraud, by rendering one species of forgery almost impossible, and liable to almost certain detection, to the prevention of all make-believe sales for the recovery of missing cattle, and the complications afterwards arising from them, and to the simplification of all cattle cases in the courts, for these judicial inquiries will not be diverted into collateral questions of forgery of certificates, and postponed in consequence of the necessity for first deciding those more serious offences.

If this representation should be successful in securing your co-operation, I augur the happiest results in consequence. I hope, therefore, that you will be good enough to give the matter your consideration and, if possible, adoption.

I have, &c.,
LOUIS NELL,
Acting District Judge.

REPORT OF THE CROWN COUNSEL FOR THE NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCE.

I HAVE the honour to send the report called for by your letter No. 25 of the 9th ultimo, and to express my regret that my absence at Kurunégala during the last criminal sessions of the Supreme Court there, and the prosecution of the Chilaw cases before the Supreme Court, with which I was occupied immediately after my return, prevented me from preparing it earlier.

The numbers of cases from the North-Western Province tried by the Supreme Court during the years 1882, 1883, 1884, 1885, 1886, and 1887 were respectively 100, 61, 52, 57, 34, and 42, all the cases being under the old procedure in the first three years, 29 being under the old procedure in 1885 and 28 under the new, and all the cases being under the new procedure in the last two years.

It will be seen from these figures that there has been no appreciable difference in the quantity of criminal work thrown on the Supreme Court before and after the introduction of the Criminal Procedure Code, notwithstanding that a large number of cases formerly tried by the Supreme Court is, since the promulgation of the new Code, sent before the District Court in consequence of the enlarged jurisdiction of the latter. Yet, though the amount of criminal work cast on the Supreme Court is about the same, there can be no doubt that it is relieved of a large number of cases, consisting chiefly of charges of grievous hurt, house-breaking, and possessing and uttering counterfeit coin, which now go before the District Court.

The conclusion I arrive at regarding the criminal work of the District Courts of the North-Western Province since the enactment of the new Code is the same as that formed by me with respect to the Supreme Court. In the year 1882 there were 70 cases before the District Court of Kurunégala, in 1883 49, in 1884 76, in 1885 73, in 1886 59, and in 1887 61. All the cases in the first three years were under the old procedure and those in the last year under the new; and of the remaining years I find that there were 25 under the old procedure in 1885 and 48 under the new, while the numbers in 1886 were respectively 6 and 53.

The number of cases in the District Court of Chilaw was 4 in the year 1882, 6 in 1883, 6 in 1884, 11 in 1885, 3 in 1886, and 11 in 1887. All the cases from 1882 to 1884, both inclusive, were under the old procedure, and those in the remaining years under the new, with the exception of only one case, which occurred in 1885, and which came under the old system.

Here, in the case of the District Courts as in that of the Supreme Court, though I am of opinion that the criminal work has not materially been reduced or increased by the introduction of the new Code, I have little doubt that the former have been relieved of the burden of hearing a considerable number of cattle-stealing cases, which are now triable by Police Courts, and also of several cases which are now disposed of by Police Courts with the consent of the accused parties under the 228th section of the Criminal Procedure Code, though beyond their ordinary jurisdiction.

It will be seen, therefore, from the foregoing observations that there has been no reduction in the amount of crime committed in the Province since the new system of criminal law and

procedure was introduced, and I attribute this to the slackness displayed in the Kurunégala district, where crime is most frequent, in the inquiry into criminal charges and in the apprehension of offenders.

The crime most prevalent in the Province is that of cattle-stealing, fully half of the total number of cases tried before the District Court of Kurunégala during the last two years being on charges for that offence. Next in importance come crimes of violence, such as cases of hurt, both simple and grievous, and cases of murder, of which there has been an alarming number during the last year, sixteen of them having come to me for instructions since the commencement of the Supreme Court Sessions in August last.

The recent appointment of a Police Magistrate for the North-Western Province has done a great deal in repressing these crimes, but as that officer is, I understand, to remain a limited time in the Province, I think that the terror inspired by him amongst evil-doers would be far from lasting, and that as soon as he leaves crime would be as rampant as it was before. Not only are the good effects of the action of temporary Magistrates of a fleeting character, but I find that their investigations, as a general rule, are extremely perfunctory, and that in their anxiety to show a good return of work done they abstain from testing the testimony of the witnesses who come before them, by examining them as to details, and are content with what they call a *primâ facie* case, but which in the end very often means no case at all.

The most pressing need of the Province is, in my opinion, the appointment of a permanent Additional Police Magistrate for the investigation of all crimes committed within the district of Kurunégala, and not summarily triable by Police Courts.

The Police Magistrate of Kurunégala, who is also Commissioner of the Court of Requests and District Judge of that town, has too much civil work to attend to ; indeed, I may say, he is so overwhelmed with it, that he cannot afford the time required for the prompt and careful investigation of cases not summarily triable before him. The result is, that though the investigation of these cases is as thorough and exhaustive as all the present Magistrate's proceedings invariably are, a considerable time elapses between the filing of the plaint and the commitment for trial or discharge of the accused—an interval very often extending to six months and sometimes to a longer period—and all the advantages of speedy trial and punishment are thus in a great measure lost.

The tables on which many of the foregoing remarks are based are herewith forwarded.

Crown Counsel's Office,
Colombo, February 18, 1888.

WALTER D. DRIEBERG,
Additional Crown Counsel.

REMARKS BY THE SOLICITOR-GENERAL ON THE CRIMINAL STATISTICS OF 1887.

THE delay in furnishing these statistics is owing to the tardiness of a few of the Magistrates in sending in their returns. I have followed the usual practice of comparing the state of crime in 1887 with three or four previous years, as the most satisfactory method of arriving at a conclusion regarding the increase or decrease of crime as evidenced by the results of prosecutions in the several courts.

2. The figures for the last five years of cases and persons charged before the Magistrates are as follows :—

	Cases.	Persons.		Cases.	Persons.
1883	62,845	123,672	1886	52,815	94,236
1884	71,177	128,381	1887	48,755	89,395
1885	50,406	87,597			

The fall during the last three years is the result of the working of the Penal and Criminal Procedure Codes. The provisions of the latter Code have deterred the institution of frivolous cases by the imposition of Crown costs and by awarding compensation to accused parties in such cases. The persons charged last year were less by 4,841 than the previous year.

3. The summary convictions have been as follows :—

	Cases.	Persons.		Cases.	Persons.
1883	12,034	18,798	1886	12,416	20,791
1884	12,139	19,864	1887	10,976	17,710
1885	12,961	20,236			

There were 1,440 fewer cases and 3,081 fewer convictions in 1887 than in the preceding year. The comparative figures in the two foregoing tables show a decrease in crime summarily punishable by Magistrates, and this is the more satisfactory when viewed with the increased jurisdiction and increased punitive powers of such Magistrates under the Penal Code during the last three years.

4. The persons discharged for want of prosecution or want of evidence are :—

	Cases.	Persons.		Cases.	Persons.
In 1883	47,708	101,521	1886	37,917	72,969
1884	48,607	99,463	1887	35,214	73,142
1885	37,769	68,135			

The numbers during the last two years have not materially varied.

5. The convictions in cattle-stealing cases are as follows :—

By Supreme and District Courts	1883	233
	1884	241
By District and Police Courts	1885	496
	1886	540
	1887	618

There has been an increase in the convictions in this description of cases, which I attribute not so much to any great increase of this crime throughout the Island as in the more speedy trial, resulting in convictions, by Police Magistrates, under the jurisdiction conferred on them to try such cases by the Penal Code. At the same time, cattle-stealing continues to prevail to a large extent, and it is hoped that the resort to whipping will tend to diminish it.

6. The following is the result of criminal prosecutions in the District Courts during the last four years :—

	Convicted.	Acquitted.		Convicted.	Acquitted.
1884	751	661	1886	625	478
1885	640	536	1887	620	536

A large number of cases formerly tried before District Courts are now disposed of by Police Courts. It will be noticed that the convictions obtained last year were about the same as the preceding year.

7. The number and result of cases tried before the Supreme Court during the last five years are as follows :—

	Convictions.	Acquittals.		Convictions.	Acquittals.
In 1883	649	323	1886	330	282
1884	663	448	1887	336	261
1885	690	406			

The fall in Supreme Court work during the last two years is the result of the operation of the Penal Code, which has transferred to the District and Police Courts work previously done by the Supreme Court.

It will be noticed that the convictions during the last two years do not much vary.

MURDER.

8. Under this heading the following is the result of the trials before the Supreme Court :—

	Convictions.	Acquittals.		Convictions.	Acquittals.
1883	21	26	1886	48	34
1884	19	44	1887	27	34
1885	24	42			

The figures for 1886 include persons tried for murder, but convicted of the lesser offences of culpable homicide not amounting to murder, and hurt. The returns for that year under the heading of "Murder" did not sufficiently distinguish between the graver and lesser descriptions of homicide; the number of persons in 1886 found guilty of murder, and sentenced to death, was really only 29, as against 27 in 1887.

The number of persons hanged for murder in 1887 was 24, as against 18 in 1886 and 8 in 1885.

9. The returns of persons convicted of culpable homicide not amounting to murder give the following results for the last five years :—

	Convicted.	Acquitted.		Convicted.	Acquitted.
1883	62	38	1886	21	13
1884	62	25	1887	40	33
1885	68	16			

10. Not fewer than 888 petitions were presented to the Attorney and Solicitor-Generals during the last year by persons complaining against the dismissal of their cases by Magistrates. This involved the sending for and reading over of these cases by me, and it is satisfactory to record that in only a very small percentage of such cases was it found necessary to require a further investigation. Under the previous regime, when no stamps were required for appeal petitions, and when an appeal was allowed to parties from all acquittals, the bulk of these cases would have gone in appeal and added to the work of the Supreme Court. The appeals from Police Courts to the Supreme Court in 1884 were 1,090, and in 1887 these were reduced to 383.

11. I have had the advantage of reading the remarks of the Hon. the Attorney-General submitted to Government last month, and of several consultations with my learned colleague as to the best means of diminishing and punishing crime—more particularly crimes of violence. I so fully concur in the views expressed by the Attorney-General in those remarks that I do not reiterate them here, as those remarks will be published at the same time as these. But there is one repressive measure which I would urgently press on the attention of the Government, and that is, a return to the punishment by transportation out of the Island of persons guilty of the higher offences and of habitual criminals. If this be not practicable at present, then some method may be adopted by which criminals may be sent to work away from the vicinity of their homes and out of sight of their relatives and friends. The practice of marching these men along the public streets and making them work in public, robs their punishment of its chief sting. It is acknowledged on every side that imprisonment is followed by no degradation when a prisoner returns home after the expiration of his sentence, but a Sinhalese criminal dreads to be away from his country and friends. During the time that transportation to Malacca was in vogue, there was no more dreaded and deterrent punishment.

CHAS. L. FERDINANDS,
Solicitor-General.

Colombo, April 27, 1888.

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

I.—Offences: Table showing Number of Offences reported to the Police or Magistrates* during 1887.

	Total Number of Offences reported.	Offences against the Person.	Cattle-stealing.	Offences against Property.†	Other Offences.
Police Courts	45,689	11,416	2,301	11,998	19,974
Municipal Bench of Magistrates	3,066	2	—	—	3,064

* Include also the Municipal Bench of Magistrates.
† Include both offences against rights of property and injuries to the subjects of property.

II.—Apprehensions and Summonses: Table showing the Number of Persons brought up before the Magistrates' Courts* by Arrest, Warrant, or Summons for Offences, and how their Cases were disposed of in the Magistrates' Courts.

	Number Discharged for want of Prosecution by the Party complaining, or for want of Evidence.	Number of Cases Dismissed on the Merits.	Number of Persons Summarily Convicted.	Number of Persons Convicted in the Superior Courts.
Offences against the person... ...	22,323	9,462	2,147	481
Offences against property	22,189	9,645	2,696	285
Cattle-stealing ...	5,924	1,490	512	106
Offences against the Labour Ordinance (Masters and Servants Acts) ...	4,364	2,466	189	—
Other offences	18,342	11,701	12,166	84
Total number of persons summoned or apprehended in 1887——89,395.	73,142	35,214	17,710	956

NOTE.—Purely civil cases in which Magistrates exercise jurisdiction are not included in this or the following Table III.
* Include also the Municipal Bench of Magistrates.

III.—Summary Convictions: Table showing the Number of Summary Convictions for various Classes of Offences, and the kind of Punishments inflicted.

Punishments.	Total Number of Offences.	Assaults and other Offences against the Person.	Theft and other Offences against Property.	Cattle-stealing.	Offences against Revenue, and other Acts relating to the Social Economy of the Colony.	Offences against the Masters and Servants Acts.	Other Offences.
Fine	7,716	1,022	358	28	3,114	40	3,154
Fine and simple imprisonment ...	34	2	17	—	5	7	3
Fine and rigorous imprisonment ...	106	21	37	12	11	5	20
Simple imprisonment only ...	112	7	24	—	39	1	41
Rigorous imprisonment only ...	2,636	257	1,544	245	95	107	388
Bound over	126	35	19	—	26	2	44
Whipping Juvenile Offenders ...	246	—	—	5	—	—	241
Total...	10,976	1,344	1,999	290	3,290	162	3,891

IV.—Indictments and Informations in the Superior Courts, including Courts analogous to the Courts of Quarter Sessions in England—*i.e.*, District Courts, &c.

How the Cases tried in the Superior Courts ended. (Each prisoner tried is counted as a separate case.)	Total.	Murder.	Culpable Homicide not amounting to Murder.	Attempt at Murder.	The Returns below include the Indictments for Attempts and Conspiracies to commit the several Offences. Concealment of Birth.	Rape.	Abduction.	Causing Death by rash and negligent act.	Unnatural Crimes.	Abandoning child	Other Offences against the Person	Offences against Property.	Robbery with Violence and attempting to Rob.	Cattle-stealing.	Miscellaneous.
Judgment for the Crown ..	956	32*	48	6	—	22	8	—	1	—	347	285	22	106	84
Judgment for the prisoner ...	797	34	33	5	2	7	3	5	—	1	197	276	22	115	97
Persons found insane ...	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
Total...	1,757	68	81	11	2	29	6	5	1	1	545	562	44	221	181

* Of these, 27 persons were sentenced to be hanged.

V.—Comparative Table showing the Number of Offences, Apprehensions, Convictions, and Acquittals for the last Six Years.

	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.
The number of offences reported to the Police or to the Magistrates* ...	57,995	62,845	71,177	50,406	52,815	48,755
The number of persons apprehended by the Police or summoned before Magistrates*	115,902	123,672	128,381	87,597	94,236	89,395
The number of summary convictions :—						
1. For offences against the person ...	2,179	2,396	1,936	1,377	1,128	1,344
2. For offences against property ...	1,360	1,437	1,424	2,323	2,465	1,999
3. For cattle-stealing ...	—	—	—	155	233	290
4. For other offences... ...	6,928	8,201	8,779	9,106	8,590	7,343
Total...	10,467	12,034	12,139	12,961	12,416	10,976
The number of convictions in the superior courts :—						
1. For offences against the person ...	586	545	606	536	478	481
2. For offences against property ...	535	465	414	457	251	285
3. For cattle-stealing ...	319	233	241	190	103	106
4. For other offences... ...	116	134	153	147	122	84
Total...	1,556	1,377	1,414	1,330	954	956
The number of persons acquitted :—						
1. In the superior courts ...	1,413	1,026	1,109	942	760	797
2. In the inferior courts ...	89,150	101,521	99,463	66,922	71,423	73,142

* Include also the Municipal Bench of Magistrates.

VI.—Return showing the Number of Criminal and Civil Cases instituted, decided, and appealed under the Village Communities Ordinance, for 1887.

		Western Province.	Central Province.	Southern Province.	North-Western Province.	North-Central Province.	Eastern Province.	Province of Uva.	Total.
Pending on January 1, 1887 ..	Civil .	205	377	113	1,029	53	846	7	2,630
	Criminal	218	588	81	1,521	210	180	7	2,805
Instituted during the year ...	Civil ..	6,730	5,220	5,741	7,639	1,972	7,935	344	35,581
	Criminal	7,523	8,791	4,539	7,392	1,911	2,724	392	33,272
Amicable settlements under § 23 ...	Civil ..	832	778	1,152	1,051	681	3,821	55	8,370
	Criminal	1,561	2,241	1,163	757	609	668	158	7,157
Breaches of V. C. Rules .	Criminal	2,334	2,748	927	3,477	968	883	31	11,368
	Irrigation	25	279	60	13	55	—	—	432
Decisions :—									
Civil ...	Money	5,736	4,158	4,440	5,710	1,164	4,089	280	25,577
	Land ...	116	234	107	200	41	16	8	722
Criminal	Assault	1,446	1,255	1,130	584	123	642	144	5,324
	Theft	1,587	709	899	916	23	248	12	4,394
	Malicious Injury ...	112	353	113	43	20	62	7	710
	Cattle Trespass ..	358	828	146	922	116	58	24	2,452
	Maintenance	83	204	58	58	38	175	16	632
Appeals :—									
To Government Agents :—									
Civil ...	Confirmed	159	81	337	82	56	35	2	752
	Set aside	51	25	17	26	22	11	—	152
Criminal	Confirmed	196	145	216	76	83	29	2	747
	Set aside	24	15	9	24	23	4	—	99
From Government Agent to Governor in Executive Council :—									
Civil ...	Confirmed	11	5	35	2	2	—	—	55
	Set aside	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	3
Criminal	Confirmed	5	6	17	1	1	—	—	30
	Set aside	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Pending on December 31, 1887 ...	Civil ..	251	427	155	1,707	139	855	8	3,542
	Criminal	235	762	124	2,143	169	168	7	3,608

VII.—Classified Statement of Charges instituted and disposed of in the Courts of the Municipal Bench of Magistrates during 1887.

	Assault.		Vagrant.		Intoxicating liquor.		Butchers.		Thoroughfares.		Cruelty to Animals.		Nuisances.		Vaccination.		Carriers.		Police.		Bread.		Tolls.		Carriages Let to Hire.		Contagious Diseases.		Weights and Measures.		Miscellaneous.		Total.	
			ORDINANCES RELATING TO THESE CHARGES.																															
			No. 4 of 1841.		No. 7 of 1873.		No. 14 of 1859.		No. 10 of 1861.		No. 7 of 1862.		No. 15 of 1862.		No. 9 of 1863.		No. 14 of 1865.		No. 16 of 1865.		No. 13 of 1864		No. 14 of 1867.		No. 17 of 1873.		No. 17 of 1867.		No. 8 of 1876.					
	C.	P.	C.	P.	C.	P.	C.	P.	C.	P.	C.	P.	C.	P.	C.	P.	C.	P.	C	P.	C.	P.	C.	P.	C.	P.	C.	P.	C.	P.	C.	P.	C.	P.
Instituted.																																		
Colombo ..	—	—	120	186	—	—	1	1	222	267	27	32	391	698	6	6	76	77	387	577	—	—	1	2	17	19	—	—	—	—	608	667	1,856	2,532
Kandy ...	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	247	479	—	—	11	11	35	40	3	3	—	—	125	125	—	—	—	—	431	554	853	1,214
Galle ...	2	5	27	70	16	17	—	—	1	1	4	4	5	5	—	—	—	—	46	54	—	—	1	1	1	1	7	9	1	1	246	249	357	417
Total..	2	5	148	258	16	17	1	1	223	268	31	36	643	1182	6	6	87	88	468	671	3	3	2	3	143	145	7	9	1	1	1,285	1,470	3,066	4,163
Convicted.																																		
Colombo ...	—	—	89	134	—	—	—	—	163	201	27	32	246	422	—	—	61	61	271	419	—	—	—	—	4	4	—	—	—	—	428	475	1,289	1,748
Kandy ...	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	124	295	—	—	6	6	26	30	2	2	—	—	85	85	—	—	—	—	293	301	537	720
Galle ...	2	3	23	51	15	16	—	—	—	—	4	4	2	2	—	—	—	—	38	45	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	1	1	52	55	140	180
Total..	2	3	113	186	15	16	—	—	163	201	31	36	372	719	—	—	67	67	335	494	2	2	—	—	89	89	3	3	1	1	773	831	1,966	2,648
Acquitted.																																		
Colombo ...	—	—	31	52	—	—	1	1	31	37	—	—	101	176	6	6	15	16	59	80	—	—	1	2	11	13	—	—	—	—	167	179	423	562
Kandy ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	109	156	—	—	3	3	9	10	1	1	—	—	34	34	—	—	—	—	210	221	366	426
Galle ...	—	2	4	19	1	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	8	8	—	—	—	—	8	9	—	—	1	1	1	1	4	6	—	—	368	370	396	418
Total..	—	2	35	72	1	1	1	1	32	38	—	—	218	340	6	6	18	19	76	99	1	1	2	3	46	48	4	6	—	—	745	770	1,185	1,406

VIII.—Statement showing the Number and the Nature of the Cases tried before the Hon. the Supreme Court during 1887, and the Results of the Trials.

Offences.	Western Province.				Central & N.-Central Provinces.				Southern Province.				North-Western Province.				Northern Province.				Eastern Province.				Total.			
	Cases.	Persons.	Convicted.	Acquitted.	Cases.	Persons.	Convicted.	Acquitted.	Cases.	Persons.	Convicted.	Acquitted.	Cases.	Persons.	Convicted.	Acquitted.	Cases.	Persons.	Convicted.	Acquitted.	Cases.	Persons.	Convicted.	Acquitted.	Cases.	Persons.	Convicted.	Acquitted.
Murder, § 269	18	22	10	12	11	14	7	7	6	7	6	1	2	2	1	1	3	11	2	9	—	—	—	—	40	56	26	30
Murder, robbery, voluntarily causing hurt, theft from a dwelling-house, voluntarily causing grievous hurt and theft having made preparation for causing hurt, §§ 296, 380, 382, 369, 317, and 371 (one found guilty of murder) ...	—	—	—	—	1	10	6	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	10	6	4
Culpable homicide not amounting to murder, § 297	21	23	15	8	5	8	*7	1	10	20	12	8	6	8	4	4	3	5	2	3	2	2	2	—	47	66	42	24
Culpable homicide not amounting to murder and causing grievous hurt, §§ 297 and 316 or 317	2	9	—	9	—	—	—	—	1	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	4	12	3	9
Culpable homicide not amounting to murder and unlawful assembly, §§ 297 and 144 (one found guilty of culpable homicide)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	6	—
Attempt at murder, § 300 ...	2	3	1	2	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	5	2	3
Attempt at murder and voluntarily causing grievous hurt, §§ 300 and 317 ...	—	—	—	—	2	2	1	1	3	3	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	6	6	4	2
Causing death by rash and negligent act, § 298	2	2	—	2	1	1	—	1	2	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	5	—	5
Causing disappearance of evidence with intention of screening the offender of the offence of murder, § 198 ...	—	—	—	—	1	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	2	—
Abandoning child, § 308	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1
Concealment of birth, § 309 ...	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1
Unnatural offence, § 365 ...	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—
Using criminal force to a woman, § 345 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—
Abduction, § 357	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	1	3	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	1	3
Abduction, criminal force and robbery, §§ 357, 345, and 380	1	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	2	—
Unlawful assembly, abduction and rape, §§ 144, 357, and 364 (1 guilty of rape, 2 of abduction in addition to unlawful assembly)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	4	2
Rape, 364	3	3	2	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	6	5	1
Rape and using criminal force, §§ 364 and 345	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—
Rape, and aiding and abetting the commission of the same, §§ 364 and 102 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	2	2	4	2	2
Rape, robbery and voluntarily causing hurt, §§ 364, 380, and 382 (two guilty of rape)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	10	8	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	10	8	2
Attempt at rape, §§ 364 and 490 ...	1	1	1	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	2	—
Unlawful assembly and assault, obstruction, or using criminal force to public servant in the discharge of his duties, §§ 144 and 149	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	19	8	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	19	8	11
Voluntarily causing hurt, §§ 314 and 315...	3	3	2	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	5	5	4	1
Voluntarily causing grevious hurt, §§ 316 and 317	21	31	24	7	6	6	3	3	5	16	10	6	1	3	3	—	3	5	3	2	—	—	—	—	36	61	43	18
Causing hurt by administering poison, § 319	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1
Mischief by fire, &c., § 419 ...	2	2	—	2	4	4	2	2	1	3	—	3	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	1	1	—	1	9	11	3	8
Criminal breach of trust, §§ 390 and 392 ...	2	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	3	—
Robbery, § 380	12	27	14	13	—	—	—	—	3	4	—	4	—	3	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	16	34	14	20
Robbery and voluntarily causing hurt, §§ 380 and 382	7	10	4	6	3	7	6	1	1	3	2	1	4	16	8	8	—	—	—	—	1	2	2	—	16	38	22	16
Robbery and voluntarily causing hurt, theft from a dwelling-house, and voluntarily causing grevious hurt and theft having made preparations for causing hurt, §§ 380, 382, 369, 317, and 371	—	—	—	—	1	6	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	—	6
Belonging to a wandering gang of persons associated for habitually committing thefts and robberies, § 385 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	—	5
House-breaking by night, § 443 ...	14	29	20	9	1	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	—	5	—	—	—	—	2	8	2	6	18	46	26	20
House-breaking by night and theft from a dwelling-house, §§ 443 and 369 ...	2	4	4	—	7	20	5	15	3	6	2	4	3	10	5	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	15	40	16	24
House-breaking by night and theft of a pair of bulls, §§ 443, 368 ...	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—
House-breaking by night and voluntarily causing grievous hurt, §§ 443, 545 ...	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	2	—
House-breaking by night and voluntarily causing grievous hurt, robbery, and theft, §§ 443, 445, 380, 367	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	3	—	1	3	3	—
House-breaking by night, theft, and causing grievous hurt, §§ 443, 369, 445 ...	1	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	3	—
House-breaking by night, theft, and voluntarily causing death, §§ 443, 369, 446 ...	1	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	4	—
Attempting to break into a house at night time with intent to commit theft, §§ 369, 490	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—

* Four persons found guilty of culpable homicide not amounting to murder.

OFFENCES.	Western Province.				Central & N.-Central Provinces.				Southern Province.				North-Western Province.				Northern Province.				Eastern Province.				Total.			
	Cases.	Persons.	Convicted.	Acquitted.	Cases.	Persons.	Convicted.	Acquitted.	Cases.	Persons.	Convicted.	Acquitted.	Cases.	Persons.	Convicted.	Acquitted.	Cases.	Persons.	Convicted.	Acquitted.	Cases.	Persons.	Convicted.	Acquitted.	Cases.	Persons.	Convicted.	Acquitted.
House-trespass, theft from a building, and voluntarily causing hurt, §§ 437, 369, 382...	—	—	—	—	1	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	4	—
Theft in breach of § 367 ...	1	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	2	—
Theft in a dwelling-house, § 369 ...	6	17	10	7	2	4	3	1	—	—	—	—	1	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	24	16	8
Theft by breach of § 370 ...	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—
Theft and dishonestly receiving stolen property, §§ 367 and 394 ...	1	5	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	4	1
Theft and voluntarily causing hurt or grievous hurt, §§ 369, 316, or 317 ...	2	6	1	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	6	1	5
Theft of a pair of bulls, § 371 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	3
Theft of a cheque, and dishonestly using as genuine a document knowing it to be forged, §§ 367, and 459 ...	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—
Theft from a dwelling-house, robbery, and voluntarily causing hurt, §§ 369, 380, 382	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	1
Dishonestly receiving stolen property knowing the same to have been stolen, § 394...	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—
Forgery in breach of §§ 454 and 456 ...	3	8	2	6	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	3	2	6	2	4	7	18	4	14
Forgery and fraudulently using as genuine a forged document, §§ 454, 456, 457, 459...	1	1	1	—	3	3	2	1	2	3	1	2	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	1	2	2	—	8	10	7	3
Forgery and cheating, §§ 454 and 403 ...	—	—	—	—	2	3	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	1	2
Forgery of a bill of exchange with intent to defraud, and theft, §§ 454, 456, 367 ...	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—
Forgery for the purpose of cheating, and criminal breach of trust, §§ 457, and 390...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1
Forgery by making a false endorsement on a cheque, cheating, and using as genuine a forged document knowing the same to be forged, §§ 454, 456, 457 ...	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—
Fraudulently using as genuine a forged document, § 459	2	2	1	1	2	2	2	—	1	1	1	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	6	5	1
Counterfeiting Queen's coin, and being in possession of instruments for counterfeiting, §§ 229, and 230 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	2	1
Counterfeiting Queen's coin, and being in possession of instruments for counterfeiting, and being in possession of counterfeit coin, §§ 227, 230, and 238 ...	1	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	6	6	—
Having in possession counterfeit Queen's coin, § 235	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—
Unlawful possession of forged and counterfeit notes, § 22, Ordinance 32 of 1884 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—
Intentionally giving false evidence, § 190...	—	—	—	—	4	4	4	—	1	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	6	7	5	2
Total ...	139	232	139	93	65	113	66	47	53	101	57	44	29	95	48	47	13	27	10	17	14	29	16	13	313	597	336	261

IX.—A Statement showing the Number of Suits instituted and disposed of in the District Courts of the Island during 1887.

DISTRICT COURTS.	Depending on January 1, 1887.	Suits instituted during the year.	Total.	Number of Cases disposed of			Depending on December 31, 1887.
				Suits decided on the Merits.	Suits otherwise disposed of.	Total No. of Suits disposed of.	
Anurádhapura	22	45	67	19	31	50	17
Badulla	152	245	397	37	196	233	164
Batticaloa	258	385	643	30	312	342	301
Chilaw	340	267	607	32	94	126	481
Colombo	7,254	1,882	9,136	177	1,281	1,458	7,678
Galle	1,091	574	1,665	128	530	658	1,007
Jaffna	686	1,022	1,708	61	1,007	1,068	640
Kalutara	296	397	693	64	330	394	299
Kandy	594	1,060	1,654	253	845	1,098	556
Kégalla	113*	123	236	75	54	129	107
Kurunégala	171	198	369	78	141	219	150
Mannár	34	57	91	8	41	49	42
Mátara	423	282	705	101	253	354	351
Mullaittívu	21	24	45	7	24	31	14
Negombo	448	449	897	41	546	587	310
Ratnapura	195	108	303	27	93	120	183
Tangalla	80	71	151	19	39	58	93
Trincomalee	60	122	182	25	96	121	61
Vavúniya-Viláṅkulam	10	6	16	0	6	6	10
Total ...	12,248	7,317	19,565	1,182	5,919	7,101	12,464

* The District Judge reports that on verification it was found that 113 cases were pending on January 1, 1887, and not 123.

X.—Table showing the Operations on the Trial Roll in the District Courts of the Island during 1887.

District Courts.	Pending on January 1, 1887.	Cases entered on the Roll during the year.	Total Cases for adjudication.	Cases decided on their Merits.	Cases otherwise disposed of.	Pending on December 31, 1887.
Anurádhapura	4	18	22	19	2	1
Badulla	10	58	68	37	19	12
Batticaloa	9	54	63	30	23	10
Chilaw	5	40	45	32	5	8
Colombo	104	475	579	177	368	34
Galle	91	205	296	128	92	76
Jaffna	16	123	139	61	56	22
Kalutara	2	86	88	64	13	11
Kandy	26	343	369	253	75	41
Kégalla	20	79	99	75	14	10
Kurunégala	37	108	145	78	23	44
Mannár	—	12	12	8	2	2
Mátara	67	105	172	101	49	22
Mullaittívu	1	10	11	7	3	1
Negombo	12	65	77	41	24	12
Ratnapura	20	31	51	27	9	15
Tangalla	8	16	24	19	2	3
Trincomalee	4	28	32	22	3	7
Vavuṇiya-Viláṇkulam	—	3	3	—	1	2
Total ...	436	1,859	2,295	1,179	783	333

XI.—A Statement showing the Number of Suits instituted and disposed of in the Courts of Requests of the Island during 1887.

Courts of Requests.	Pending on January 1, 1887.	Instituted or revived during the year.	Total.	Number of Cases Disposed of			Depending on December 31, 1887.
				On Evidence.	Otherwise disposed of, *i. e.*, by Admission or by Default, &c.	Total.	
Anurádhapura	53	303	356	81	242	323	33
Avisáwélla and Pasyála	108	944	1,052	181	722	903	149
Badulla	38	500	538	75	397	472	66
Batticaloa	123	942	1,065	99	873	972	93
Balapiṭiya...	69	336	405	30	271	301	104
Chávakachchéri	109	628	737	53	577	630	107
Chilaw and Máráwila	84	745	829	150	355	505	324
Colombo	221	3,119	3,340	509	2,564	3,073	267
Galle	94	843	937	107	731	838	99
Galagedara	25	205	230	44	125	169	61
Gampola	86	552	638	94	497	591	47
Hatton	25	261	286	98	173	271	15
Haldummulla	24	237	261	44	207	251	10
Hambantoṭa	20	90	110	21	79	100	10
Jaffna and Mallákam	153	1,193	1,346	108	1,064	1,172	174
Kalutara	58	587	645	81	510	591	54
Kandy	124	883	1,007	160	760	920	87
Kayts	24	663	687	201	455	656	31
Kégalla	51	542	593	176	318	494	99
Kurunégala	230	815	1,045	187	644	831	214
Mannár	21	210	231	21	197	218	13
Mátalé	114	498	612	201	341	542	70
Mátara	172	768	940	160	655	815	125
Mullaittívu	39	120	159	16	119	135	24
Negombo	122	1,001	1,123	100	869	969	154
Nuwara Eliya	19	281	300	51	224	275	25
Pánadaré	56	669	725	81	578	659	66
Point Pedro	64	459	523	51	427	478	45
Puttalam	55	405	460	54	318	372	88
Paṇwila and Urugala	25	169	194	52	124	176	18
Ratnapura	211	506	717	106	429	535	182
Tangalla	133	395	528	123	366	489	39
Trincomalee	24	547	571	66	471	537	34
Vavuṇiya-Viláṇkulam	42	130	172	15	107	122	50
Total ...	2,816	20,546	23,362	3,596	16,789	20,385	2,977

XII.—A Return of Cases instituted before the Courts of Requests of the Island during 1887.

Courts of Requests.	Land.	Money Lent.	On Bond.	For Damages.	For Goods Sold.	On Bills.	On Account.	Unlawful detention of Property.	For Rent.	For Hire and Wages.	For Money advanced for delivery of Articles.	For Assault.	For Cattle Trespass.	For opposing Fiscals' Sales.	Government Tythe.	Promissory Notes.	Agreements.	Lease.	Paddy.	Maintenance.	Service.	Miscellaneous.	Total.
Anurádhapura	21	24	10	4	79	—	9	26	19	15	21	—	—	—	—	53	1	—	18	—	—	3	303
Avisáwélla and Pasyála ...	68	28	341	112	87	—	2	9	10	23	5	—	7	—	—	138	1	24	9	2	—	78	944
Badulla	18	24	34	28	102	—	5	36	17	8	16	—	23	—	6	157	7	4	4	—	1	10	500
Batticaloa	16	150	285	8	135	—	2	49	5	27	—	—	—	—	1	198	—	—	49	—	—	17	942
Balapitiya	13	25	181	12	20	—	—	—	5	21	—	—	—	—	23	34	—	2	—	—	—	—	336
Chávakachchéri	30	97	208	10	68	—	—	38	5	9	14	—	—	—	7	117	3	6	16	—	—	—	628
Chilaw and Máráwila... ...	12	31	133	119	57	—	—	27	12	29	12	—	—	—	2	266	5	19	—	—	—	21	745
Colombo	49	142	479	102	680	11	8	45	590	90	19	—	—	—	—	480	6	21	—	3	71	323	3119
Galle...	32	13	306	33	100	—	1	9	21	9	1	—	—	—	12	135	3	19	12	—	88	49	843
Gallegedara	48	13	73	23	2	—	—	27	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	6	1	2	5	—	3	—	205
Gampola	9	35	34	28	146	—	3	17	57	30	1	—	2	—	10	137	—	1	14	1	6	21	552
Hatton	—	36	—	5	89	—	11	12	21	43	—	—	—	—	—	40	—	—	—	—	—	4	261
Haldummulla	12	9	15	24	46	—	—	—	14	8	2	—	1	—	—	63	17	4	—	—	—	22	237
Hambantota	1	11	6	9	3	12	—	7	3	3	5	—	3	—	—	20	—	—	3	—	2	2	90
Jaffna and Mallákam ...	29	194	345	6	224	56	6	—	11	13	40	4	—	—	—	204	20	11	1	—	—	29	1193
Kalutara	22	20	229	51	40	—	4	—	17	36	5	—	7	—	—	140	9	7	—	—	—	—	587
Kandy	23	57	77	34	234	5	7	4	106	35	10	—	—	—	—	196	—	1	14	—	67	13	883
Kayts	82	119	95	10	91	—	12	75	2	6	12	—	—	—	5	126	2	—	—	—	8	18	663
Kégalla	75	13	125	40	29	—	1	52	2	14	—	—	14	—	1	75	—	11	16	—	52	22	542
Kurunégala	101	46	195	36	82	10	13	31	24	16	22	—	8	1	31	152	2	10	27	1	6	1	815
Mannár	9	17	66	8	7	3	40	20	—	6	2	—	—	—	—	15	—	—	13	—	—	4	210
Mátalé	43	26	77	37	55	—	6	36	44	19	22	—	27	—	—	93	1	9	3	—	—	—	498
Mátara	32	24	399	51	58	12	1	36	4	15	1	—	3	17	87	4	10	14	—	—	—	—	768
Mullaittívu	1	14	23	9	5	—	9	5	—	12	—	—	1	—	1	15	—	1	20	—	—	4	120
Negombo	23	24	283	30	134	3	2	—	25	13	8	—	8	1	—	328	11	13	3	—	8	84	1001
Nuwara Eliya	14	20	12	11	65	7	2	10	14	15	—	—	2	—	—	72	1	—	2	—	—	34	281
Pánaduré	28	38	267	27	40	—	—	50	11	11	1	—	1	—	—	136	—	18	13	1	9	18	669
Point Pedro	22	66	179	4	31	—	14	29	5	5	27	—	—	—	—	68	3	4	—	—	—	2	459
Puttalam	10	52	110	25	65	9	—	47	14	14	6	—	4	—	—	35	4	9	—	—	—	1	405
Paqwila and Urugala	9	10	43	26	12	—	2	9	1	10	1	—	—	—	2	22	—	—	9	—	1	12	169
Ratnapura	55	17	82	42	67	—	8	1	10	9	—	—	6	—	—	121	—	16	7	5	3	57	506
Tangalla	20	5	179	72	2	5	—	18	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	56	15	—	20	—	—	—	395
Trincomalee	3	37	55	10	189	40	51	—	42	16	6	1	—	3	—	43	—	2	30	—	1	18	547
Vavuniya-Viláqkulam ...	2	12	9	—	21	—	1	4	2	7	4	—	—	—	—	27	12	—	19	—	—	10	130
Total...	932	1,449	4,955	1,046	3,065	178	220	729	1,113	589	266	5	117	22	188	3,772	134	228	327	13	326	877	20,546

XIII.—A Statement showing the Number of Criminal Cases committed for trial before the District Courts of the Island for 1887.

		Anurádhapura.	Badulla.	Batticaloa.	Chilaw.	Colombo.	Galle.	Jaffna.	Kalutara.	Kandy.	Kégalla.	Kurunégala.	Mannár.	Mátara.	Mullaittívu.	Negombo.	Ratnapura.	Tangalla.	Trincomalee.	V.-Vilankulam.	Total.
Relating to the Army and Navy.—Nil.																					
Relating to Public Tranquillity.																					
Unlawful Assembly	C.	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
	P.	—	—	—	—	—	—	17	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	24
Riot	C.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
	P.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—	—	—	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	22
Assaults on Public Servants	C.	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
	P.	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Other Offences	C.	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
	P.	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Relating to Public Servants.																					
Taking Illegal Gratification	C.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
	P.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Other Offences	C.	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
	P.	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
False Evidence, and Offences against Public Justice.																					
Giving or fabricating False Evidence ...	C.	2	3	—	1	3	1	1	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	19
	P.	2	3	—	1	3	3	1	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	21
False Statements	C.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
	P.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
False Personation	C.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
	P.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Fraudulent dealing with Property ...	C.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
	P.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
False Claim	C.	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
	P.	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
False Charge	C.	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
	P.	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Harbouring Offenders	C.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
	P.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Defaults of Public Servants	C.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
	P.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Escapes and connected Offences ...	C.	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
	P.	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Other Offences	C.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
	P.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
Relating to Coins and Stamps.																					
Counterfeiting Coin	C.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
	P.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7
Counterfeiting Queen's Coin	C.	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
	P.	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Other Offences	C.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
	P.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Affecting the Public Health and Morality.																					
Other Offences	C.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
	P.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Relating to Religion.—Nil.																					
Against the Human Body.																					
Concealment of Birth	C.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
	P.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Hurt	C.	—	—	—	1	30	2	4	—	18	1	—	—	3	—	1	1	2	—	—	63
	P.	—	—	—	1	43	6	8	—	24	1	—	—	4	—	3	3	2	—	—	95
Grievous Hurt	C.	1	3	1	1	7	9	3	10	21	3	9	1	16	—	1	9	5	1	—	101
	P.	2	6	1	1	11	27	11	21	40	5	23	1	51	—	4	10	7	2	—	223
Causing Hurt or Grievous Hurt by dangerous Weapons	C.	—	1	2	1	5	14	—	15	3	6	—	—	15	—	15	—	—	—	1	78
	P.	—	3	2	1	5	20	—	35	8	12	—	—	35	—	24	—	—	—	3	148
Wrongful Confinement	C.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
	P.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	4
Assault and Criminal Force	C.	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	4
	P.	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	5
Kidnapping	C.	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
	P.	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Other Offences	C.	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	5
	P.	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	1	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	7
Theft, other than of Cattle or Prædial Products	C.	1	—	1	2	13	3	—	4	18	—	—	—	8	—	4	—	—	—	—	54
	P.	1	—	1	3	16	4	—	6	41	—	—	—	20	—	5	—	—	—	—	97
Theft of Cattle	C.	2	2	1	1	4	—	—	46	3	1	30	—	—	—	10	4	—	1	—	105
	P.	5	4	3	3	5	—	—	90	5	5	70	—	—	—	23	9	—	2	—	224
Offences against Property.																					
Theft of Prædial Products	C.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	3
	P.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	3
Theft by Servants	C.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
	P.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Robbery	C.	4	1	—	—	1	7	1	6	8	[illegible]	2	—	1	—	3	—	3	—	—	39
	P.	9	1	—	—	1	[illegible]	[illegible]	8	14	[illegible]	2	—	8	—	3	—	11	—	—	83

		Anurádhapura.	Badulla.	Batticaloa.	Chilaw.	Colombo.	Galle.	Jaffna.	Kalutara.	Kandy.	Kégalla.	Kurunégala.	Mannár.	Mátara.	Mullaittívu.	Negombo.	Ratnapura.	Tangalla.	Trincomalee.	V.-Vilápkulam.	Total.
Criminal Misappropriation	C.	1	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
	P.	1	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
Receiving Stolen Property	C.	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	4	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
	P.	1	—	1	—	—	2	—	7	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	13
Cheating	C.	—	1	—	—	4	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	8
	P.	—	1	—	—	4	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	12
Fraudulent dealing with Property ...	C.	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
	P.	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Mischief	C.	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	5	—	—	11
	P.	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	6	—	1	—	2	—	—	1	7	—	—	19
House-trespass	C.	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
	P.	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	7	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	12
House-breaking, &c.	C.	3	—	1	2	5	—	4	2	14	—	7	—	8	—	2	2	—	—	—	50
	P.	4	—	1	8	6	—	12	2	22	—	18	—	19	—	2	4	—	—	—	98
House-trespass, and House-breaking to commit Offence	C.	—	4	1	—	—	12	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	22
	P.	—	8	1	—	—	20	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	39
Other Offences	C.	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
	P.	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	3
Other Offences	C.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	3
	P.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	3
Total ...	C.	18	17	11	13	73	54	20	99	101	18	62	1	59	—	49	19	15	3	1	633
	P.	28	28	14	22	95	108	62	188	196	39	130	1	164	—	77	32	27	5	3	1219

XIV.—Statement showing the Number of Charges instituted and disposed of in the Police Courts of the Island during 1887.

Police Courts.	Cases pending on January 1, 1887.	Instituted or revived during the year.		Total Number of Cases.	Disposals.										Complainants fined for Frivolous or Vexatious Complaints.	
					Convictions.*		Acquittals or Discharges.†		Committed before the Supreme Court.		Committed before the District Court.		Total disposed of.			
		Cases.	Persons.		Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Cases	Persons.
Anurádhapura ...	74	346	877	420	84	138	298	740	5	13	16	22	403	913	6	13
Avisáwélla and Pasyála ...	131	1,784	4,008	1,915	439	650	1,286	3,155	11	19	3	3	1,739	3,827	26	26
Badulla ...	93	1,244	2,148	1,337	379	485	829	,643	10	20	16	28	1,234	2,176	70	70
Balapitiya ...	181	1,486	3,326	1,667	323	497	1,196	3,167	10	25	14	22	1,543	3,711	—	—
Batticaloa ...	54	899	1,752	953	307	444	596	1,320	12	24	10	11	925	1,799	20	20
Chávakachchéri ...	51	936	1,544	987	88	128	853	1,413	1	1	6	9	948	1,551	59	145
Chilaw and Márawila	156	1,073	2,107	1,229	228	367	646	1,467	13	25	9	17	896	1,876	10	15
Colombo ...	77	4,479	7,138	4,556	2,213	2,810	2,171	4,132	48	69	40	61	4,472	7,072	24	24
Colombo (additional Police Magistrate)	28	679	1,521	707	70	129	536	1,235	17	34	17	48	640	1,446	1	1
Galle ...	122	2,138	4,202	2,260	449	549	1,439	4,963	19	38	34	57	1,941	5,607	48	48
Galagedara ...	80	895	2,128	975	172	246	654	1,717	11	70	24	63	861	2,096	—	—
Gampola ...	122	1,702	2,651	1,824	398	556	1,300	2,083	4	5	10	14	1,712	2,658	2	4
Hatton ...	125	1,514	1,966	1,639	324	435	1,219	1,538	10	17	8	17	1,561	2,007	14	31
Haldummulla ...	16	417	872	433	110	141	305	741	3	10	2	3	420	895	7	8
Hambantota ...	13	160	314	173	37	51	104	243	1	1	—	—	142	295	3	3
Jaffna ...	132	2,836	4,156	2,968	305	382	2,413	4,009	5	15	8	17	2,731	4,423	16	17
Kalpitiya ...	22	82	198	104	18	34	84	221	—	—	—	—	102	255	2	2
Kalutara ...	66	1,257	2,317	1,323	477	633	743	1,594	9	10	61	128	1,290	2,365	100	100
Kandy ...	101	1,806	3,026	1,907	748	1,082	1,011	1,879	8	17	34	70	1,801	3,048	27	42
Kayts ...	35	1,739	3,122	1,774	198	242	1,535	2,855	—	—	—	—	1,733	3,097	35	100
Kégalla ...	19	1,586	3,088	1,605	364	613	1,190	2,375	5	5	15	50	1,574	3,043	36	36
Kurunégala ...	368	2,329	5,229	2,697	466	689	1,897	4,847	20	101	38	108	2,421	5,745	—	—
Mallákam ...	141	1,983	2,928	2,124	62	84	1,914	2,719	2	2	4	12	1,982	2,817	5	5
Mannár ...	13	190	328	203	64	90	129	285	2	5	1	1	196	381	4	16
Mátalé ...	196	1,231	2,262	1,427	305	492	957	1,840	16	35	11	22	1,289	2,389	10	10
Mátara ...	349	1,512	3,709	1,861	309	450	1,301	3,598	18	46	58	162	1,686	4,256	9	9
Mullaittívu ...	35	136	256	171	32	50	115	241	1	1	—	—	148	292	6	6
Negombo ...	222	1,625	3,292	1,847	255	402	1,374	2,898	19	39	42	64	1,690	3,403	209	212
Nuwara Eliya ...	77	742	1,182	819	253	334	518	966	3	3	2	5	776	1,308	10	20
Pánaduré ...	58	1,817	3,799	1,875	376	587	1,330	2,963	21	36	37	67	1,764	3,653	15	11
Panwila and U'rugala ...	60	734	1,596	794	163	261	552	1,304	8	18	10	16	733	1,599	10	50
Point Pedro ...	63	1,021	1,625	1,084	80	114	961	1,546	—	—	3	7	1,044	1,667	34	89
Puttalam ...	45	485	944	530	93	138	353	704	2	2	3	3	451	847	12	12
Ratnapura ...	387	1,117	2,328	1,504	342	483	991	2,504	11	22	13	27	1,357	3,036	11	11
Tangalla ...	160	1,069	2,141	1,229	189	229	853	1,957	7	12	12	20	1,061	2,218	45	120
Trincomalee ...	15	515	851	530	225	277	270	558	4	10	3	5	502	850	36	37
V.-Vilápkulam ...	43	125	301	168	35	95	106	316	—	—	1	3	142	414	—	—
	3,930	45,689	85,232	49,619	10,980	15,387	34,029	71,736	336	750	565	1,162	45,910	89,035	922	1,277

* (*a*) In Trials by consent. (*b*) In Summary Trials on Evidence. (*c*) On Admission.

† (*a*) On Evidence under chapter XVI. of the Criminal Procedure Code. (*b*) In Trials by Consent. (*c*) In Summary Trials on Evidence. (*d*) On absence of Complainant. (*e*) Withdrawals. (*f*) Dismissals for other reasons.

XVII.—Return of Inquiries into Cases of Sudden Death, &c., held during 1887 by the Police Magistrates of the Island, showing the Number and Causes of Deaths.

	Anurádhapura.	Avisawélla and Pasyála.	Badulla.	Balapitiya.	Batticaloa.	Chávakachchéri.	Chilaw.	Colombo.	Colombo (outside Gravets.)	Galle.	Galagedara.	Gampola.	Hatton.	Hambantota.	Haldummulla.	Jaffna and Mallákam.	Kalpitiya.	Kalutara.	Kandy.	Kayts.	Kégalla.	Kurunégala.	Mannár.	Mácalé.	Mátara.	Mullaitivu.	Negombo.	Nuwara Eliya.	Pánaduré.	Panwila and Urugala.	Point Pedro.	Puttalam.	Ratnapura.	Tangalla.	Trincomalee.	Vávuniyá-Világkulam.	Total.
Execution under sentence of Supreme Court ...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	11	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	24
Homicide.																																						
Murder	5	5	3	3	5	1	11	6	8	8	...	...	3	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	2	7	...	9	3	...	11	3	3	3	...	1	6	2	2	...	114
Culpable Homicide not amounting to Murder ...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	1	2	...	1	6	2	...	2	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Suicide.																																						
Cutting the Throat ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Drowning ...	1	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Hanging ...	3	4	1	1	1	...	...	5	3	2	3	3	...	...	...	5	...	1	3	...	3	3	1	5	3	1	3	1	7	1	3	...	2	1	...	...	69
Poison	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	6
Shooting ...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Suicide whilst Temporarily Insane.																																						
Drowning in Wells or Streams...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	3
Gunshot... ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2
Hanging ...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	3	...	...	...	11
Poison	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cutting the Throat ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
By throwing self from or under Railway Carriage, &c.	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Drowning in Sea ...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Accidental Deaths.																																						
Drowning in Rivers, Tanks, and Lakes or Ponds ...	3	7	2	4	15	3	...	7	3	8	2	6	7	1	3	3	1	8	10	...	...	15	...	2	14	...	3	2	1	3	1	...	8	1	4	...	147
Drowning in Seas ...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Lightning ...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	1	...	9
Explosion of Gunpowder	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Falling into Wells ...	2	2	...	4	8	5	...	9	1	9	5	4	2	...	...	20	...	7	6	1	8	4	1	1	6	1	3	...	2	...	6	...	1	6	...	...	124
Fall from Buildings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Fall from Trees ...	3	20	15	12	3	1	3	7	10	23	22	5	...	...	...	3	...	15	11	1	38	31	1	18	21	2	...	5	14	6	1	1	31	8	...	...	326
Fall of Trees ...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	3	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	2	1	1	2	...	14	...	...	4	1	...	2	...	...	...	39
Fall from Carts ...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	8	...	...	2	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Fall from Rocks ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Fall of Buildings and Fruits	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	2	2	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	2	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	17
Railway and Landslips	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Gunshot	...	1	5	...	1	...	2	3	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	1	...	1	6	1	2	5	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	7	2	...	...	45
Poisoning ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	3	...	...	4	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	17
Other causes ...	1	4	6	...	...	...	...	10	1	12	4	1	5	...	3	6	...	11	2	1	11	8	...	1	5	2	3	8	6	9	...	...	3	...	...	...	123
Sudden Deaths from Natural Causes.																																						
Apoplexy ...	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	2	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Disease	6	20	21	8	7	2	5	95	...	22	8	16	28	...	15	6	...	18	30	...	5	52	6	12	14	1	21	13	12	19	3	10	20	3	3	2	503
Insanity	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Deaths from effects of Violence not recent—Miscellaneous.																																						
Burning	...	...	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	2	3	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	4	...	...	...	1	...	3	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	21
Drinking ...	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Stung by Hornets ...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Killed by Alligators	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	3
Killed by Wild Animals	...	2	...	...	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	2	17
Snake-bites ...	...	...	3	...	19	11	8	...	1	1	4	...	...	1	...	7	...	...	...	...	2	25	5	2	...	...	1	1	...	...	3	...	4	12	...	...	110
Causes known.																																						
Found Buried ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Found Dead ...	...	...	2	...	...	1	...	2	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	3	1	...	...	...	3	3	2	...	...	22
Found Drowned ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	5	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	15
Causes unknown.																																						
Found Buried ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Found Dead ...	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	4	1	...	...	...	12
Found Drowned ...	...	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
	28	70	70	41	73	26	36	183	40	95	51	39	56	5	30	57	1	80	79	5	81	177	22	52	88	8	72	39	56	50	19	19	102	44	10	4	1908
In Prison ...	3	...	3	...	2	...	4	42	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	5	6	...	...	16	...	...	5	...	14	...	...	...	...	9	6	...	1	...	126
In Asylum ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	30	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
In other places ...	24	70	67	41	71	26	32	111	40	88	51	39	52	5	30	54	1	75	73	5	81	161	22	52	83	8	58	34	56	50	19	10	96	44	9	4	1742

POLICE.

REPORT OF THE INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF POLICE FOR 1887.

THIS report will be found in the usual three Parts :—Part I., Crime ; Part II., Deaths from Violence, Accidents, &c. ; and Part III., the Police Force.

2. The report is a brief summary of facts, and of remarks on the more salient points of the various subjects. For many years I took pains to call attention to what I considered the principal causes of crime in Ceylon, and the most probable remedies ; but I have ceased to do so since 1884, when in the report for the previous year I set forth my views fully and clearly. They can be found there if they are required.

PART I.—CRIME.

3. I shall first give a few figures furnished principally by my own officers, and then I shall give the leading figures of the statistics compiled by the Attorney-General and supplied by him to me. Those statistics and his own report on them will be found, as usual, I presume, immediately before this report in the volume of Administration Reports for the year. Here I may remark at the outset that, notwithstanding the clamour last year from a few quarters in Colombo about the alarming increase of crime and the ineffectiveness of the police, the Attorney-General's figures show that there was actually less crime than in previous years, and that it was more effectively dealt with than usual. The cry was due to a not very severe epidemic of burglary in Colombo, such as occasionally occurs in almost every large town, and perhaps to a number of murders following each other closely—murders for the most part of such a nature that no police could prevent them.

4. With regard to the figures furnished by police officers, I would say that they are an approximation only ; those for the North-Western Province being actually the figures for 1886 instead of those for 1887. Owing to a circumstance of which Government are aware, the figures for 1887 are not available, and those of 1886, from which they probably do not differ much, are used in order that we may compare certain results with those of previous years.

5. This table gives a view of the number of accused persons and criminal cases which came more or less under the cognisance of the police during 1886 and 1887 :—

Nature of Offence.	Total Cases.		Total Accused Persons.					
			1887.					1886.
	1886.	1887.	Discharged.	Acquitted.	Convicted.	Pending.	Total.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Murder	71	102	78	38	59	46	221	155
Manslaughter	59	47	47	18	21	9	95	144
Rape	25	28	34	—	5	27	66	62
Drugging for the purpose of robbing...	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
Gang robbery	39	43	269	26	7	59	361	317
Highway robbery	120	132	330	28	16	58	432	429
Burglary	178	249	217	60	59	130	466	376
Causing grevious hurt ...	192	256	328	90	104	141	663	525
Cruelty to animals	337	279	16	4	280	1	301	406
Coffee-stealing	50	79	26	23	75	2	126	85
Cattle-stealing	871	1,185	2,175	342	155	571	3,243	2,697
Theft of over Rs. 300 ...	45	36	61	52	9	67	189	223
Forgery and coining	39	34	24	8	22	3	57	72
Perjury	18	18	3	7	6	10	26	23
All offences other than the above ...	7,620	6,820	2,803	867	6,541	686	10,897	11,921
Total ...	9,669	9,308	6,411	1,563	7,358	1,811	17,143	17,443

6. The first figures in this statement that challenge attention are those at the foot of the eighth and ninth columns, which show that there were 17,443 accused in 1886 and only 17,143 in 1887, and the figures at the foot of columns 2 and 3 show that there were 9,669 criminal cases in 1886 and only 9,308 in 1887. The figures at the top of columns 2 and 3 show the murders and culpable homicides taken together as 130 in 1886 and 149 in 1887. In table IV. of the Attorney-General's statistics they are given as 145 in 1886 and 149 in 1887. Crime in 1887 was even less, as compared with 1886, than these police figures show, as will be seen further on.

MURDERS AND MANSLAUGHTERS.

7. The following table shows the murders and manslaughters of 1887 which came more or less under the notice of the police. It shows the proportion of population, police, and crimes, and it shows, I regret to say, an increase in this class of crime during the year under review, which I am quite unable to account for :—

Province.	Population.	Police.	Murders and Culpable Homicides.			Persons Convicted.		
			1885.	1886.	1887.	1885.	1886.	1887.
Western	897,329	807	39	75	53	38	46	21
Central	639,361	404	21	21	29	16	14	13
Southern	433,520	160	16	10	32	13	2	23
Northern	302,500	92	6	5	7	1	—	3
North-Western ...	293,327	54	17	13	21	19	4	17
Eastern	127,555	28	5	6	7	2	3	3
North-Central	66,146	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	2,759,738	1,545	104	130	149	89	69	80

8. The table shows that in the 149 cases of murder and culpable homicide in 1887, 316 persons were accused or strongly suspected, of whom up to March 31 last 56 were acquitted, 125 discharged, 25 sentenced to death, and 24 had been hanged. The Attorney-General mentions 27 as having been sentenced to be hanged.

9. The following statement gives some details of the killers and killed during 1887 and the two previous years :—

Nationality.	Population in 1881.	Killers.			Killed.		
		1885.	1886.	1887.	1885.	1886.	1887.
Sinhalese	1,846,614	176	232	255	68	101	116
Tamils	687,248	62	46	43	25	22	26
Muhammedans... ...	184,542	9	18	18	8	5	5
Burghers	17,886	—	—	—	—	—	2
Malays	8,895	—	3	—	1	1	—
Europeans	4,789	—	—	—	1	—	—
Others	9,764	2	1	—	1	1	—
Total ...	2,759,738	249	300	316	104	130	149

10. Regarding the foregoing statistics of murder, I have in substance the same thing to say year after year with a change of figures. I therefore use the following words employed last year in the shortest of my administration reports, with of course the change of figures referred to :—

It may be said that most of the murdered people were killed by persons of their own race—Sinhalese by Sinhalese, Tamils by Tamils, and so on. This fact is of course due very much to the circumstance that the Sinhalese associate principally with their own people, and the Tamils with theirs. It shows, however, that there is very little race animosity in Ceylon.

As is usually the case in this Island, many of the murders were cruel, and many had inadequate motives. Sixty-six of the cases were caused by rage, 27 by a desire for revenge.

Of the killed, 45 were beaten to death with clubs or other weapons, 40 were stabbed, 18 were killed by shooting, 5 by strangling, 1 by poisoning, and the remainder by various other means.

For general remarks and suggestions on murder in Ceylon, and on its repression, especially as regards stabbing, I would refer to my administration report for 1883, paragraphs 1 to 19.

Appendix I. at the end of this report gives a brief account of each case of culpable homicide which came to the notice of the police during 1887. It will be found a strange and striking record. Its object is to show the nature of these cases in Ceylon, the motives which cause them, the classes to which both the murdered and the murderers belong, and the weapons used ; but it is intended especially to show the great prevalence of such cases and the large proportion which escape punishment.

Many of the cases on the record referred to are stated to be outside police limits. The meaning of this is, that the small police force of Ceylon is stationed in a few towns and districts with charge of comparatively narrow limits. Outside these limits the country is in charge of the native headmen. As a fact, I do send some of the few detectives I possess to the scene of every very serious crime we can discover ; but many murders are not reported to us until the available evidence has been so neglected or corrupted as to be valueless, and the criminals go unpunished, and are ready for fresh crime with less fear than before.

I live in hope that these annual records of Ceylon crime, and my continual appeals for a Detective Branch strong enough to gradually and effectually repress it, may yet produce the desired effect.

11. The following table gives some information about cattle-stealing :—

Province.	Number of Cases.		Persons Convicted.	
	1886.	1887.	1886.	1887.
Western ...	32	40	26	32
Central ...	37	28	41	18
Southern...	*	604	—	70
Northern...	18	60	1	11
Eastern ...	4	2	12	1
North-Western	451	451	23	23

12. Cattle-stealing appears to have been very prevalent in 1887 as it usually is, but I believe the work of the Itinerating Magistrate, Mr. Lee, in the Kurunégala district, and his administration of the

* Probably 300 to 400, but the statistics are not trustworthy.

new Ordinance 18 of 1887, and a tolerably liberal use of the lash or rattan, have had a wonderfully good effect in improving that district, which has always been famous for cattle-stealing. I used greatly to dislike the use of corporal punishment, as demoralising. A very long experience, however, has convinced me that it is the only punishment effectual in some cases, and that it is not demoralising —I mean in Ceylon, of course.

THEFT.

13. There were reported to the police in 1886 45 cases of simple theft, each of goods less in value than Rs. 300. Of such cases 36 were reported in 1887.

14. The following table shows the thefts and recoveries of 1886 and 1887 :—

Province.	Population.	1886.					1887.				
		Robbed or stolen.		Recovered.		Percentage recovered.	Robbed or stolen.		Recovered.		Percentage recovered.
		Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.		Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	
Western	897,329	28,762	56	8,031	90	27·92	41,845	1	15,540	82	37·14
Central	639,361	24,225	85	6,150	53	25 39	44,361	67	9,089	76	20·49
Southern	433,520	6,654	19	931	89	14·00	1,391	13	449	40	32·30
Northern	302,500	2,273	90	324	79	14·45	2,207	22	577	82	26·17
North-Western .	293,327	330	44	186	9	56·36	653	43	325	93	49·88
Eastern	127,555	3,778	30	321	9	8·49	2,215	95	635	85	28·68
North-Central ...	66,146	—		—		—	—		—		—
Total ...	2,759,738	66,025	24	15,946	29	24·15	92,674	41	26,619	58	28·72

15. As for the other offences in the table under paragraph 5, it does not seem necessary to repeat year after year the same general remarks as to their prevalence in Ceylon, and peculiarities and possible remedies. They can be found in previous reports, especially in the administration report for 1883.

THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S STATISTICS.

16. The two following tables have been compiled—all except the last column of each—from the figures furnished by the Attorney-General. In the first table the last column has been obtained from the Prisons Department, and the last column of the second table has been taken from the Police records. This is the first table :—

Year.	Total Cases in Superior Courts (each person is a case).	Total Convictions in Superior Courts.	Average Daily Strength of Convicts in all Prisons.
1874	1,807	1,106	1,873
1875	1,860	1,161	2,188
1876	1,743	984	2,073
1877	1,578	950	2,006
1878	1,728	878	1,976
1879	2,181	1,173	1,612
1880	3,538	1,747	2,057
1881	2,898	1,555	2,422
1882	2,976	1,556	2,603
1883	2,405	1,377	2,682
1884	2,524	1,414	2,673
1885	2,294	1,330	3,448
1886	1,715	954	3,627
1887	1,757	956	3,314

17. These figures, the two middle columns of which refer to cases in the Supreme and District Courts, taken in conjunction with the following table, which refers to cases in the subordinate courts as well, do not show any increase of crime, but quite the reverse. In the foregoing table, it is true that there is a trifling increase in the number of persons tried and the number acquitted by the superior courts in 1887 as compared with 1886, but what a decrease as compared with many previous years! And what a satisfactory decrease the last column shows in the daily average of our prisoners—a decrease of 313! And this, notwithstanding the heavy sentences still inflicted under the new Criminal Codes and Road Ordinance, which, as the same column shows, sent up our prison population with a bound as soon as they came into operation in 1885. The fifth column of the following table shows in another form what this decrease of 313 in the daily average means—that it means that 1,438 fewer persons were convicted in 1887 than were convicted in 1886, whilst the number convicted in 1886 was nearly 1,000 fewer than those convicted in 1885!

Year.	Total Offences.	Total Persons apprehended or summoned before Courts.	Total Summary Convictions.	Total Convictions in all Courts.	Total Property stolen or robbed, which came to the knowledge of the Police.
1874	63,734	130,637	11,794	12,900	—
1875	64,324	130,121	13,608	14,769	—
1876	64,841	131,366	11,279	12,263	—
1877	83,177	133,515	13,217	14,170	—
1878	64,668	138,661	11,719	12,597	—
1879	59,388	122,802	9,721	10,894	101,774
1880	54,720	115,636	9,774	11,521	100,840
1881	54,344	109,266	10,103	11,658	70,214
1882	57,999	115,902	10,467	12,023	76,901
1883	62,845	123,672	12,034	13,411	86,273
1884	71,177	128,381	12,139	13,553	64,160
1885	50,406	87,597	12,961	14,291	75,994
1886	52,815	94,236	12,416	13,370	66,025
1887	48,755	89,395	10,976	11,932	92,674

18. It ought to be noted by the persons who think that there has been an increase of crime in Ceylon, how the figures in the first four columns of the last table show a steady decrease. The offences are far fewer than of old, whilst the convictions are more numerous in proportion. But all the advantage is not perceived till it is borne in mind that the improvement in the working of both the Police Courts and the Police brings forward now a far larger proportion of the crime and criminals than was brought forward in 1874, to which the statement goes back.

19. The only item that went up last year is the amount of property robbed or stolen, as shown in the last column. This, which does not seem to call for much remark, probably indicates that prosperity is returning to the Island. The table under paragraph 14 shows the percentage of stolen property recovered in 1887, viz., 28·72, which under the circumstances is fair.

20. As I said in my last administration report, the causes of crime in Ceylon are hot temper, callousness to the suffering of others, whether man or beast, drinking, gambling, licentiousness, love of pleasure, cupidity, inordinate litigation, perjury, the universal use of sheath-knives which do not shut, and comparative immunity from punishment. I still think that the most remediable of these causes are the drinking and gambling, the habitual use of knives which do not shut, and the defects in our Judicial System.

21. As regards the last cause, I refer chiefly to the defects in my own Department. I have no detectives to speak of, and so long as this continues to be the case the Sinhalese people will every year see a very large proportion of the worst criminals evading justice, or—worse still—boldly laughing at it after having triumphantly walked out of court owing to the insufficiency of the badly collected and badly prepared evidence for the Crown. Again I would say that one of the most pressing demands at the present time is for a greatly strengthened and improved Detective Branch of the Police under a fully competent officer, which for a time at least should be devoted entirely to the numerous murders and robberies of the Colony. Can it be expected that 1,500 poorly paid police, more than half of whom are employed to guard convicts and treasuries and to keep order in the streets—can it be expected that this handful of men scattered throughout a country nearly as large as Ireland, and with a population* criminal to an unusual extent, can bring a large majority of the worst criminals to justice? I myself think it cannot be expected.

22. I have often reported that in my opinion our Government, compared with other Governments, devote a very small and insufficient proportion of their revenue to their police and to their prisons. It is a question of policy—a question whether a generation or two hence the people will be better off by being provided early with railways, and roads, and water-tanks, or with comparative safety to life and property. Gibbon, writing of the marvellous improvement effected in Rome by Rienzi about 1347, pithily remarks that "as soon as the life and property of the subject are secure, the labours and rewards of industry spontaneously revive," and other authorities than Gibbon have said so before and since.

PART II.—DEATHS FROM VIOLENCE AND ACCIDENT.

23. Here I may say as regards both this second part of my report and the third part which follows it, that in order to save time, of which I have very little to spare, I shall use with few exceptions the same words I used last year, substituting of course the figures for 1887 for those of the previous years.

24. The deaths from violence and accident will, I presume, be found tabulated as usual in appendix XVII. of the report from the Attorney-General, and will probably be commented upon by that officer.

25. The total for 1887 appears to be 1,908 deaths, but doubtless there were many which never came before a Coroner's jury—cases in which bodies disappeared for ever in the sea, in rivers, in wells, in pits, or in secret graves.

26. Murders and manslaughters amount to 142, and the men hanged for committing murder to 24. The suicides amount to 109, of whom 80 hanged themselves and 12 drowned themselves.

27. The accidental deaths were 906, of which 326 were caused by falling from trees, 147 by drowning in rivers, tanks, and lakes, 124 by falling into wells, and 45 by gunshot. 110 persons were killed by snakes, 21 died from burns, and a great variety of causes brought about the other deaths; among others, hornets, falls of various kinds, poisoning, explosions of gunpowder, alligators, &c.

PART III.—THE POLICE FORCE.

28. Regarding this part also I have little to say that, with the change of a few figures, I have not said in former reports, especially in the report for 1879. Appendix II. shows all the details of the constitution, strength, and cost of the force in 1886 and 1887. It shows that it cost (in round numbers) on December 31, 1887, Rs. 563,808 per annum, of which about Rs. 398,118 are paid from the general revenue and Rs. 165,690 from the assessment of districts, towns, villages, &c. It shows that it is composed and paid as follows:—

1	Inspector-General	Rs. 12,000
4	Superintendents, at from Rs. 4,000 to...	5,000
5	Assistants, at from Rs. 1,500 to	3,500
27	Inspectors, at from Rs. 840 to	1,500
203	Sergeants, at from Rs. 300 to	840
1,271	Constables, at from Rs. 180 to	270

* A population numbering nearly three million.

29. Besides the salaries there are the allowances for rent, forage, travelling, &c., shown in appendix II.

30. The following table shows the nationality of the force :—

Nationalities.	Inspector General.	Superintendents.	Assistant Superintendents.	Inspectors.	Sergeants	Constables.	Clerks.	Total 1887.	Total 1886.
British ...	1	4	3	4	7	16	—	35	20
Europeans other than British, including Burghers of pure European descent	—	—	2	11	7	23	—	43	56
Burghers of mixed descent	—	—	—	7	22	81	7	117	97
Buddhists belonging to Ceylon	—	—	—	—	6	213	5	224	243
Buddhists belonging to India or elsewhere ...	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	3	23
Hindus belonging to Ceylon	—	—	—	—	17	83	—	100	87
Hindus belonging to India...	—	—	—	—	10	114	—	124	149
Malays	—	—	—	2	99	377	2	480	462
Muhammedans, not Malays, belonging to Ceylon ..	—	—	—	1	8	65	2	76	77
Muhammedans belonging to India and elsewhere ...	—	—	—	—	5	70	—	75	90
Native Christians ...	—	—	—	2	21	209	7	239	144
Other than the above ...	—	—	—	—	1	17	—	18	74
Total Force ...	1	4	4	27	203	1,271	23	1,534	1,533

31. A description of the force and of its constitution and duties, and a comparison with other forces, are given in detail in paragraphs 119 to 124 of the report for 1883.

32. The crying want of the force is, as I have already stated, a powerful Detective Branch.

BUILDINGS.

33. These we are sorely in need of at many stations, where the men are widely scattered in poor lodgings at their own cost.

DRILL.

34. This has been kept up much as usual. Most of the men have been taught to use their rifles, and the best shots wear decorations on their sleeves to show their proficiency, and are very emulous and proud of them. The decorations are stars, a little larger than a shilling. The first class is silver gilt, the second class silver, and the third class red. These decorations render it easy to pick out quickly a party of good shots.

GENERAL.

35. The usual attention was paid during the year to sanitary matters, including vaccination, in all places where police are stationed, and sick immigrants and paupers found by the wayside were duly attended to. The butchers and the weights and measures of dealers were supervised as usual, and also the storage of gunpowder, dynamite, and kerosine.

36. A terribly retrograde movement has, in my opinion, been made since last year. Government letter 158 of March 16, 1888, directed me to cease having the public women of Colombo, Kandy, and Galle compulsorily examined. No appreciable gain can come from the change, and many of the 200 wretched women on the list will become centres of disease, to poison not only the present generation but innocent generations to come.

37. The Servants' Registration Scheme, introduced in 1871, continues popular and successful. The burglars, who for a time had rather a successful campaign in Colombo last year, would have been much more dangerous had the domestic servants been as easily induced to help them as they used to be. That they are not so easily induced, is due to the fact that any ill-conduct is now recorded by the registration, and prevents their ever getting good employment again.

38. The following are the statistics :—

	1887.	1886.	Previous to 1886.	Total.
Number of pocket registers issued	1,296	872	19,765	21,933
Do. registration of previous characters ...	48	18	1,242	1,298
New engagements	3,656	2,867	41,904	48,427
Number of duplicate pocket registers issued ...	223	158	2,370	2,751
Do. registrations confirmed	—	4	264	268
Do. registrations refused	—	—	8	8
Do. discharges recorded	2,592	2,340	31,918	36,850
Do unregistered servants	—	—	128	128
Do. prosecutions	8	—	110	118
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Amount received from sale of stamps	1,238 0	935 75	15,565 50	17,739 25
Do. from duplicate pocket registers	241 0	180 0	2,369 0	2,790 0
Do. of fines inflicted	12 50	137 0	479 75	2 25
Total ...	1,491 50	1,252 75	18,414 25	20,531 50

39. It would be no burthen to the public were the fees doubled or quadrupled, which would bring them back to what I put them at when I drafted the Ordinance. The Legislative Council reduced them to what they are now, the consequence of which is that the scheme repays only a quarter of its cost. It should be made to repay all its cost as, I believe, the cart registration scheme does now.

40. No changes of importance took place in the force during 1887. I was very well pleased, on the whole, with the work of the men and officers throughout the year.

G. W. R. CAMPBELL,
Inspector-General of Police.

APPENDIX I.

PRECIS OF MURDERS AND MANSLAUGHTERS IN CEYLON DURING 1887 WHICH CAME TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE POLICE.

[N.B.—The detection of the crime of the districts "beyond police limits" is supposed to be the duty of the native headmen. Whether the cases occurred within or without police limits is mentioned as regards the Western Province alone. As regards the other Provinces a larger proportion than in the Western Province occurred outside these limits, though this fact is not mentioned as regards any case.]

WESTERN PROVINCE.

Murders.

1. At Kanipi, Pánaduré district, Podihami, a Siṇhalese woman, aged 33, charged Kamanis, a Siṇhalese man, aged 35, and another with assaulting her, and they were fined Rs. 20 each. About a month after this Kamanis with Santhia, another Siṇhalese man, aged 30, concealing themselves behind a bush shot at Podihami with a gun when she was returning from a bath. Podihami died the following day in hospital from the effects of the wound. Kamanis was tried in the Supreme Court and acquitted. Santhia was discharged by the Magistrate. This occurred beyond police limits.

2. At Gampotagodara, in the Haṇwella district, S. Podi Sinno, a Siṇhalese cultivator, aged 18, was, while sleeping at night in a loft of a boutique, stabbed and killed by S. Peiris, also a Siṇhalese cultivator, aged 29, who had a quarrel in the daytime with his mistress, the sister of the deceased, in which S. Podi Sinno had taken part with his sister. S. Peiris and three others, who were present at the murder, were charged. S. Peiris was tried in the Supreme Court and acquitted; the other accused was discharged by the Magistrate. This occurred beyond police limits.

3. At Wall street, Koṭahéna, Colombo, James Perera, a Siṇhalese trader, aged 40, had an altercation with Peloris Dias and Ambrose Silva, Siṇhalese men of no occupation, aged 30 and 45 respectively, for molesting his servant boy when he was taking some milk for sale. Peloris Dias and Ambrose Silva thereupon assaulted James Perera with clubs, from the effects of which he died in hospital some days after. Ambrose Silva was convicted and hanged. Peloris is still in concealment.

4. At Devamoltava, Negombo district, Adoris Silva, a Siṇhalese cultivator, aged 50, while sleeping at night in the outer verandah of his house, was assaulted with clubs by Pemblis Silva, Sadris Silva, and Rokin Silva, also Siṇhalese cultivators, of the respective ages of 40, 20, and 18, who were on bad terms with him owing to a dispute about a piece of land. Adoris Silva died in hospital from the effects of the assault. The accused were tried and acquitted. This occurred beyond police limits.

5. At Suriapaluwa, Colombo district, Sundarapedige Salalu, a Siṇhalese basket woman, aged 40, while returning to her village from Colombo with four baskets full of provisions was murdered, by her throat being cut, in a Roman Catholic church in the neighbourhood of Suriapaluwa, where she halted for the night. Her body was found without the silver articles and cash said to have been upon the person. Pedoris Fernando, a Siṇhalese cart-driver of that village, aged 38, who, it is believed, enticed the woman into the church, having been on terms of intimacy with her, and who was seen by a villager coming out of the church at the time the corpse was lying there, was charged; but for want of sufficient evidence he was discharged by the Crown Counsel. This occurred beyond police limits.

6. At Galanigama, Pánaduré district, Sowappu, a Siṇhalese man of bad character, aged 35, removed three cattle tied up in a garden for trespass, on the plea that they belonged to him. Soon after the owner of the cattle, Punchi Appu, a Siṇhalese cultivator, aged 40, going in search of the cattle, was informed that they had been driven off by Sowappu into a certain jungle. Punchi Appu, with three others, also Siṇhalese cultivators, aged 30, 28, and 35, went in pursuit of Sowappu. Two days after Sowappu's body was found in a tank. It having been much decomposed, the Surgeon was unable to form an opinion as to whether the man died by violence or not, Punchi Appu and the others were taken up, but were discharged for want of sufficient evidence. This occurred beyond police limits.

7. At Meyanapallawa, Kégalla district, Kiri Bindo, a Siṇhalese woman, aged 20, and Kirra, a Siṇhalese cultivator, aged 20, the adopted son of the father of Kiri Bindo, were on terms of intimacy, unknown to Kiri Bindo's parents and her lawful husband. Kiri Bindo, having often refused the request of Kirra to leave her lawful husband and go away with him, was at length stabbed and killed by him. Kirra was convicted and hanged. This occurred beyond police limits.

8. At Attidiya, Colombo district, Wirasangaha Nekatige Bastian Fernando, a low-caste native medical practitioner, aged 40, was assaulted by some men of the Wellala caste, because the low-caste people of the village to which he belonged were going to assume at the wedding of a niece of his social privileges which did not belong to them. W. N. Bastian Fernando died the following day. Some of the Wellala party, viz., James, Barnis, and Moris, Siṇhalese men of no occupation, aged 18, 28, and 25, respectively, were charged; but they were discharged by the Magistrate for want of sufficient evidence. This occurred beyond police limits.

9. At Weralupitiya, in Haṇwella, Sanchihami, a Siṇhalese woman, aged 40, had an adopted son Kirihena Madris. He having become leprous, Sanchihami separated him from her family and neglected him. Not long after Sanchihami's body was found near a footpath in a jungle with her throat cut, she having been waylaid and killed. It was believed the woman had been murdered by Kirihena Madris, who was tried by the Supreme Court, but acquitted. This occurred beyond police limits.

10. At Egoda Uyana, Pánaduré district, Abram Peiris, a Siṇhalese carpenter, aged 38, fired at Amaris,

also a Sinhalese carpenter, aged 30, with a pistol, singeing his face, for having assaulted one of his sisters. Amaris then struck Abram Peiris on the head with an axe, and Seima, a Sinhalese lad, aged 14, Amaris' stepson, stabbed Abram Peiris in the back with a chisel. Abram Peiris died in hospital from the effects of the wounds. Amaris was sentenced to be hanged, and was executed. Seima was sentenced to ten years' hard labour. This occurred beyond police limits.

11. At Kahatuduwa, Pánaduré district, Konga Appu, a Sinhalese cultivator, aged 35, was struck with a club by Gregoris Appu, also a Sinhalese cultivator, aged 29, as the former was getting down from a cocoanut tree in the garden of the latter, where he (Konga Appu) had gone to steal. Konga Appu died from the effects of the assault. Gregoris Appu was tried and acquitted. This occurred beyond police limits.

12. At Halgampitiya, Colombo district, K. Podi Sinno, a Sinhalese cultivator, aged 35, and some other villagers gave chase in the night to four thieves—Hendrick Naide, an escaped convict, W. Mathesia, D. Podia, and Wellon Appu, all Sinhalese men—who had attempted to break into a house. The thieves ran into the house of one of the villagers named Somara, where the pursuers attempted to seize them, when four of them were stabbed by the thieves. Podi Sinno, one of the wounded men, died. Hendrick Naide was sentenced to death, and was executed. The others were discharged. This occurred beyond police limits.

13. At Mulheriyawa, Colombo district, Denis Silva, a Sinhalese man of no occupation, aged 24, and Agonis Perera, peace officer, Thegis Perera, carter, and Jalis Perera, a carpenter, all Sinhalese, aged 35, 25, and 40, respectively, had an altercation, the parties having been on bad terms on acccount of the intimacy of Denis Silva with the mistress of Agonis Perera, peace officer. An assault ensued, and Denis Silva received a fatal wound from a knife. The accused was discharged by the Magistrate as the evidence was very conflicting. This occurred beyond police limits.

14 At Henebawa, Kégalla district, Manikrala, aged 35, and Keerala, a Sinhalese cultivator, aged 40, had a dispute about some land, and the latter attempted to aim at the former with a gun, when a bystander knocked up the gun, which went off in the air. Keerala then took an axe and struck Menikrala on the head, killing him on the spot. The case has been committed for trial before the Supreme Court This occurred beyond police limits.

15. At Kadirane, Negombo district, Migel Fernando, a Sinhalese fishmonger, aged 68, was assaulted with clubs by Francis and Brampy, Sinhalese watchers, aged 27 and 22 respectively, when they detected him in the act of stealing cocoanuts from the estate in which they were employed. Migel Fernando died from the blows he received. This case is pending, and the accused are in custody. This occurred beyond police limits.

16. At Kotahena, Colombo, Pathuma, a Tamil woman, aged 20, was stabbed with a knife and killed by Carolis, a Sinhalese butcher, aged 25, because she forbade him visiting her on account of the ill-treatment she had received from him during the time he lived with her. Carolis was sentenced to death, and was hanged.

17. At Wellawatta, southern suburb of Colombo, B. W. Fernando, a Sinhalese man of no occupation, aged 20, and B. Jusey Appu, another Sinhalese man, aged 22, frequented a house for the purpose of paying their addresses to a young girl. Preference having been given to Jusey Appu, B. W. Fernando was asked by the parents of the girl to desist from visiting the house. One day Jusey Appu, returning from the house with a club in hand, met B. W. Fernando, who also had a club, and fearing, it is said, that he would be assaulted by B. W. Fernando, knocked him down with the club. B. W. Fernando died in hospital. Jusey Appu is in concealment. This occurred beyond police limits.

18. At Asgiriya, Negombo district, Thavege Sinho Appu, a Sinhalese cultivator, aged 45, was killed by having his throat cut while he was sleeping at night in his house. The body, cut into pieces, was found in two gunny bags on the bank of an oya with the head lying close by. Bramby Perera, a Sinhalese man, aged 35, the paramour of the murdered man's wife, conjointly with the wife, Pablingehami, aged 35, and Podi Sinno, a lad, aged 17, son of the deceased, and another Sinhalese man named Agoris Appu, aged 25, brother of the deceased's wife, were the actors in this tragedy, which was perpetrated with the view of securing tranquillity to the wife and her paramour. Evidence that the persons named committed the act was given by two little girls, daughters of the deceased, aged 12 and 8, who, hearing groans proceeding from the room next to the one they occupied, got up and peeped into it, when they saw their father being murdered. The accused have been committed for trial before the Supreme Court. This occurred beyond police limits.

19. At Deenapaummuwa, Colombo district, H. Samuel Appu, a Sinhalese cultivator, aged 58, had a quarrel with H. Tegis Appu's wife about a pig. When H. Tegis (a Sinhalese cultivator, aged 24, who was employed on an estate) returned home, his wife complained against Samuel Appu. Whereupon Tegis drank freely, armed himself with a club, and went to Samuel Appu's house, and having quarrelled with him struck him on his side with the club. Samuel Appu died an hour after. Tegis has been committed for trial before the Supreme Court. This occurred beyond police limits.

20. At Dandugama, Negombo district, the corpse of a Tamil man, a stranger, aged about 60, was found by the side of the road. The result of the postmortem examination proved that he had died from suffocation. Motives for the murder is supposed to be plunder. Two villagers of bad character were taken up on suspicion. They were discharged by the Magistrate for want of evidence. This occurred beyond police limits.

21. At Katunaiyaka, Negombo district, E. Fernando, a Sinhalese fisherman, aged 21, abused Paulu Perera, another Sinhalese, aged 22, at the door of his house, for having falsely charged him with highway robbery. Upon this Paulu Perera rushed out of his house with a knife and stabbed E. Fernando, who died from the effects of the wound a few days after. Accused is in custody. Case pending. This occurred beyond police limits.

22. At Dewamodera, Ratnapura district, W. Heen Appu and H. Andris, Sinhalese cultivators, aged 35 and 40 respectively, had a quarrel about a boat, and the latter stabbed the former with a knife, killing him on the spot. Accused was sentenced to twenty years' hard labour. This occurred beyond police limits.

23. At Barber street, Kotahena, Colombo, Jacolis Appu, a Sinhalese kanakapulle, aged 21, was stabbed with a knife by Muttu Carpen, a Tamil man, aged 20, a notorious thief. Jacolis Appu died in hospital from the effects of the wounds. The motive, it is supposed, was robbery. The Crown Counsel discharged the accused for want of sufficient evidence; but he was sentenced to seven years' hard labour for causing, on the day previous to the murder of Jacolis Appu, grievous hurt to Mesa with intent to rob.

24. At Madampitiya, Colombo, Arnolis, a Sinhalese carpenter, aged 29, was assaulted and struck on the head with clubs, which resulted in a fracture of the skull, by Alla and Pappa, two Sinhalese, aged 18 and 20 respectively. Arnolis died from the effects of the wounds. Alla and Pappa and two others, Harro and Punchi Sinno, Sinhalese coolies, aged 20 and 22 respectively, who were in company of Alla and Pappa at the time of the murder, were charged. They were all discharged by the Crown Counsel for want of sufficient evidence. The motive of the act has not yet been discovered.

25. At Karagahamuna, Colombo district, Sengencuttige Johana, a Sinhalese woman, who was with child by her sister's husband, on account of her inability to support the child and to avoid the shame and the ignominy to which she would be exposed, went in the morning, when delivery was about to take place, to the jungle close to her house and gave birth to a child. She then returned, leaving the child in the jungle. A man who went in the evening to cut sticks in the jungle found the child alive, but owing to the exposure and neglect he died soon after. Sengencuttige Johana has been committed for trial before the Supreme Court. This occurred beyond police limits.

26. At Balugahagoda, Colombo district, N. Sidochi, a Sinhalese man, aged 30, and Peter Fernando, also a Sinhalese man, were shareholders of a betel enclosure. One day a dispute arose about their shares of the produce, and it was stated Peter Fernando stabbed N. Sidochi in the chest with a knife, killing him on the spot. The accused was tried in the Supreme Court and acquitted. This occurred beyond police limits.

27. At Ranale, Colombo district, Johana Perera, a Sinhalese girl, aged 19, was with child by clandestine intercourse. She and her father Gregoris Perera kept the fact from her native medical practitioners, and with the view of procuring abortion informed them that she had a tumour in the stomach, for which she was accordingly treated. One day when she was returning with her father from the medical practitioner's in a bullock cart, she gave birth in the cart to a female child. The infant, according to witnesses, was strangled and thrown on the road

while the cart was in motion. Johana Perera and her father were tried in the Supreme Court and acquitted. This occurred beyond police limits.

28. At Pilankada, Colombo district, Sinno Appu, a Siṇhalese man, aged 30, and Peiris and others, also Siṇhalese, gambled and had a quarrel, in which Sinno was stabbed with a knife and killed by Peiris. Peiris was sentenced to be hanged. The sentence has been commuted to twenty years' hard labour.

29. At Balagama, Colombo district, Apolanchihami, a Siṇhalese woman, and Banda, a Siṇhalese man, had an altercation owing to the latter having struck a fowl belonging to the former and broken its leg. A few days after, Apolanchihami meeting Banda abused him again, when he struck her a blow with a katty. Apolanchihami died in hospital from the injury. Banda was tried in the Supreme Court and acquitted. This occurred beyond police limits.

30. At Atuwawella, Kégalla district, the father of Aggo Sinno, Ayappuwa, Mohotti Appuwa, Punchi Sinno, Nuga Naide, and Podi Appuwa, Siṇhalese, having abused the thieves who stole Aggo Sinno's pig, the father of Ganumunige Sendrickhami took offence at it. An altercation followed, and in the quarrel which ensued Ganumunige Sendrickhami, a Siṇhalese girl, aged 13, in attempting to interpose was dragged by her hair and her throat cut, it is alleged, by Aggo Sinno. Aggo Sinno, Ayappuwa, Mohotti Appuwa, and Podi Appuwa have been committed for trial before the Supreme Court. Nuga Naide and Punchi Sinno were discharged by the Crown Counsel. This occurred beyond police limits.

31. At Dean's road, Maradána, Colombo, Pawistinahami, a Siṇhalese woman, aged 37, a boutique-keeper, who was the mistress of D. Perera, a Siṇhalese man, aged 35, also a boutique-keeper, separated from him on account of ill-treatment. About two months after D. Perera entered the house of Pawistinahami, threw her down and stabbed her with a knife, killing her instantaneously. D. Perera is in custody. The case is pending.

Manslaughters.

1. At Amandalawa, Negombo district, Abel Appu, a Siṇhalese cultivator, aged 17, while carrying off some cocoanuts stolen from an estate was fired at by Matha, a Siṇhalese watcher of the estate, aged 30. Abel Appu died from the effects of the gunshot wound. Matha was sentenced to eighteen months' hard labour. This occurred beyond police limits.

2. At Werahena, Colombo district, Raigama V. Podi Singho, a Siṇhalese cultivator, aged 14, was bathing in a stream, when Siman, also a Siṇhalese cultivator, aged 17, came to the spot and threw Podi Sinho's clothes, which were on the bank, into the water. Podi Sinho began abusing Siman, when Siman, in a fit of anger, shot R. V. Podi Sinho with a gun, which he had in his hands at the time, having been out shooting. R. V. Podi Sinho died from the effects of the wounds. Accused is in custody. Case pending. This occurred beyond police limits.

3. At Dandugama, Negombo district, Joronis Perera and Istaky Fernando, Siṇhalese cultivators, aged 39 and 33 respectively, went to work in a field about which they had a dispute, which caused enmity between them. Words passed and they fought, the result being the death of the former, whose body was found in a swamp in the field. Istaky Fernando was tried by the Supreme Court and sentenced to eighteen months' hard labour. This occurred beyond police limits.

4. At Kollupitiya, Colombo, Marthelis, a Siṇhalese dhoby, aged 30, and some other dhobies assaulted Cornelis Dias, also a Siṇhalese dhoby, aged 30. A few days after the assault Cornelis Dias waylaid and assaulted Marthelis, striking him on the head with a club. Marthelis died in hospital some time after. Cornelis Dias was sentenced to ten years' hard labour.

5. At Dumbara, Ratnapura district, Halwillage Harmanis Appu, a Siṇhalese cultivator, aged 30, charged Podi Appu, a Siṇhalese cultivator, aged 30, with theft. Podi Appu taking umbrage at this went to Harmanis's house and abused him A quarrel ensued, when Podi Appu stabbed Harmanis with a knife, Harmanis being held by Mathe Appu, a Siṇhalese cultivator, aged 30. Harmanis died on the spot. Podi Appu was sentenced to seven years' hard labour, and Mathe Appu was acquitted. This occurred beyond police limits.

6. At Pelmadulla, Ratnapura district, Kiri Binda, a Siṇhalese, aged 32, was the lawful wife of Adama. Adama having found in his house a cloth belonging to her paramour gave her a beating Kiri Binda died from the effects of the assault. Adama was sentenced to six months' hard labour.

7. At Beruwala, Kalutara district, Mathes, a Siṇhalese cooly, aged 25, had a drink at a tavern, and asked one of the companions, Naide, also a Siṇhalese cooly, aged 23, to pay for it. Naide refused, when a quarrel ensued and Naide stabbed Mathes in the chest with a knife. Mathes died in hospital from the effects of the wound. Naide and two of his companions were taken into custody. Naide was tried in the Supreme Court and acquitted. The other two accused were discharged by the Magistrate. This occurred beyond police limits.

8 At Madaliyawella, Pasyála district, Punchi Naide, a Siṇhalese cultivator, aged 35, and his brother Sinno, a silversmith, aged 58, had a quarrel about a field, and the former was shot dead by the latter with a gun. Sinno Naide was sentenced to fifteen years' hard labour This occurred beyond police limits.

9. At Udagodagedara, Negombo district, Malage Migel Appu, a Siṇhalese cooly, aged 35, who was living on an estate, was often detected in the act of stealing cocoanuts, and warned. He was again found stealing cocoanuts, when he was seized by the watchers of the estate, Johanis Appu and Hendrick, both Siṇhalese, aged 26 and 20 respectively. Migel Appu died shortly afterwards from the ill treatment he received at the hands of the watchers Accused are in custody. Case pending. This occurred beyond police limits.

10. At Bopetta, Ratnapura district, Gamage Ousadahami, a Siṇhalese cultivator, aged 32, struck Mohottihami, a Siṇhalese cultivator, aged 25, for stealing sweet-toddy belonging to him. Two brothers of Mohottihami, Appuhami and Setuhami, and their father Punchirala, Siṇhalese cultivators, aged 25, 30, and 50, respectively, hearing that Mohottihami had been assaulted, came armed with weapons, and were met by Mohottihami, who joined them. They then went to Ousadahami's house, and Appuhami stabbed and killed Ousadahami with a knife. Appuhami was sentenced to five years' hard labour. The others were discharged. This occurred beyond police limits.

11. At Kayman's Gate, Colombo, Patumma, a Tamil woman, aged 40, was run over and killed by a double bullock cart driven at a furious rate by L. Sewaris, a Siṇhalese man, aged 32. L. Sewaris was charged with causing death by rashly and carelessly driving, and was tried by the Supreme Court and acquitted.

12. At Slave Island, Colombo, Pedro Pulle, a Tamil cooly, aged 40, and Semba, had a quarrel owing to the latter having abused the former. In the scuffle which ensued, Semba fell over Pedro Pulle. Pedro Pulle appeared to have received some internal injury, and was sent to hospital, where he died. Medical evidence was to the effect that he had died from rupture of the bladder, caused by sudden application of violence with a blunt instrument, or by a kick or a fall. Neither of the parties had any weapon when they quarrelled. Semba was discharged by the Magistrate.

13. At Jampettah street, Colombo, Sawary Appa, a Tamil man, aged 37, and the wife and daughter of Rayappen, a Tamil horsekeeper, aged 50, had a quarrel about some cocoanuts. While the quarrel was going on Rayappen came to the spot and took the part of his wife and daughter, and going into the house returned with an axe, with which he struck Sawary Appa on the left leg. Sawary Appa died in the hospital from the injury he had received fourteen days after the assault. Accused is in custody. Case is pending.

14. At Gawarigiriya, Ratnapura district, in a quarrel about some buffaloes between Sarahami, a Siṇhalese cultivator, aged 22, and M. Balanchia, Bala Sinno, G. Wijaya, and M. Kira, Siṇhalese cultivators, aged 24, 30, and 30, respectively, Sarahami, who was struck by Baba Sinno with the hand, stabbed the latter with a knife, and was about to ran away, when S. Wijaya seized him by the hair, and M. Balanchia and Baba Sinno stabbed him (Sarahami) in the back and armpit with knives, and M. Kira struck him on the back with a club. Sarahami ran a few yards and fell dead from the effects of the wounds. M. Balanchia and Baba Sinno were tried in the Supreme Court. The former was acquitted, but the latter was sentenced to ten years' hard labour. The others were discharged by the Crown Counsel. This occurred beyond police limits.

15. At Dematagoda, Colombo, Puddumay, a Tamil, aged 40, a cattle slaughterer, not having paid house rent when demanded by his landlord, M. Botegue, was struck by him and his son W. Botegue, Siṇhalese, aged 50 and 30 respectively, with hands, which caused death shortly after The medical evidence was that the deceased being a sickly man his death may have been accelerated by the assault. M. Botegue was fined Rs. 25 by the Magistrate for assault and the other accused was discharged.

16. At Prerampate, Avisáwélla district, Subeya, a Siṇhalese cultivator, aged 57, on remonstrating with Bilanchia, a Siṇhalese cultivator, aged 45, about his cutting a tree on the boundary of the garden of the former, was assaulted by the latter. Babanisa, son of Subeya, a Siṇhalese cultivator, aged 30, came to his father's rescue, and was also assaulted by Bilanchia. Whereupon Babanisa struck Bilanchia with a stone, which hit him on the temple. Bilanchia died a few hours after from the effects of the blow. Babanisa was sentenced to eighteen months' hard labour. This occurred beyond police limits.

17. At Galpotta street, Kotahena, Colombo, K. Baronchi Appu, a Siṇhalese cooly, aged 45, and A. Bastian Appu, a Siṇhalese cooly, aged 30, who used to work together, were habitual drunkards. One night, they being the worse for liquor, had a quarrel, and A. Bastian struck K. Baronchi Appu with a club, fracturing his leg, from the effects of which he died. Bastian Appu was tried in the Supreme Court and acquitted.

18. At Molugoḍa, Pánaduré district, Thambia, a Siṇhalese cultivator, aged 30, and Wastua, a Siṇhalese cultivator, aged 32, had a quarrel about a piece of land; and in the scuffle which ensued Thambia was stabbed in the stomach and killed. Accused was sentenced to five years' hard labour. This occurred beyond police limits.

19. At Kolonna, Ratnapura district, Tunkeme Jasin Arachchige Punchi Appu, a Siṇhalese man, aged 35, was shot at with a gun by Leanage Adonhami through malice; and he died from the effects of the wounds. Accused has been committed for trial before the Supreme Court. The Magistrate cannot give the motive for the act. This occurred beyond police limits.

20. At Hapugahagama, Negombo district, Peiris Appu, a Siṇhalese cultivator, aged 28, was seized by Julis Appu, Gregoris Appu, Brampy Appu, and Don Carolis Appu, Siṇhalese cultivators, aged 25, 35, 22, and 50, respectively, in the act of stealing arecanuts from the garden of Gregoris Appu, and beaten with clubs. Peiris Appu died two months after from the effects of the assault. The accused were discharged by the Crown Counsel. This occurred beyond police limits.

21. At Biyagama, Colombo district, Peloris Appu, a Siṇhalese man, aged 35, was assaulted with the hands by Don Juan Naide, Domingo Naide, and David Naide, Siṇhalese, in a quarrel between the parties about a fish kraal. Peloris Appu died from the rupture of the spleen, caused by the assault. The accused were discharged by the Magistrate for want of sufficient evidence. This occurred beyond police limits.

22. At Ambagaspitiya, Colombo district, R. Baba Appu, a Siṇhalese man, aged 45, being abused by S. Marthalis, a Siṇhalese man, for having given false evidence in a case against him, struck S. Marthelis with his hands. Whereupon the latter, who was the worse for liquor at the time, drew his knife and stabbed R. Baba Appu on the head, who died shortly after. S. Marthelis was sentenced to seven years' hard labour. This occurred beyond police limits.

CENTRAL PROVINCE.

Murders.

1. On January 1, 1887, in the Mátalé district, Permal Naiker, a Tamil cooly, aged 30, stabbed his wife Mutuamma, aged 25, with a pruning knife, for having cohabited with another man. Permal Naiker was hanged.

2. Manikrala, a Siṇhalese village headman (vidane), aged 65, of the Rágalla district, having resigned his office wanted to secure the vacant post for his son; but a nephew of his named Kiriwanta, a cultivator, aged 45, was the successful candidate, and this caused much jealousy and ill-feeling. Manikrala on January 11, 1887, killed Kiriwanta with a katti, and afterwards committed suicide by hanging.

3. On January 31, 1887, in the Gampola district, Palani, a Tamil cooly, aged 60, went to Pilla, a Siṇhalese carpenter, aged 45, to demand payment of a debt, when Pilla turned round and struck Palani on the head with a club, which caused his death. Pilla was sentenced to ten years' rigorous imprisonment.

4. On February 9, 1887, Kandasami, a Tamil, aged 30 (the head kangani of Derry Clare estate in the Dimbula district), with two other coolies assaulted Ramasami, aged 28, another Tamil cooly of the same estate, with clubs, and fractured his right leg and arm, which caused death. Ramasami was drunk and disorderly at the time of the assault. Kandasami and the two other accused were acquitted.

5. Ukkumanika, a young Siṇhalese woman of the Urugalla district, aged 15, left her husband for her parent's house and refused to return. The husband, Kiri Banda, a Siṇhalese cultivator, aged 25, shot her dead on March 9, 1887. Kiri Banda was sentenced to ten years' rigorous imprisonment.

6. About March 11, 1887, Suppaya, a Tamil cultivator of the Haldummulla district, aged 35, was found murdered, and buried. It was afterwards discovered, that owing to a family quarrel, Suppaya was murdered by the inmates of his own house, namely, Ramasami and Rengen, two Tamil coolies, aged 30 and 25. Both these coolies were hanged. Suppaya's wife and another Tamil accused were discharged.

7. On April 1, 1887, in the Badulla district, Arumogem Pulle, a Tamil conductor, aged 54, shot and killed Govindon Rája, a Tamil petty trader, aged 38, for having rendered assistance to his (Arumogem Pulle's) wife who had left him, and was begging in the bazaar. Arumogem was hanged. Two other Tamils who were accused were discharged.

8. On March 4, 1887, in the Mátalé district, Appuwa, a Siṇhalese cultivator, aged 30, who was drunk at the time, stabbed with a knife and killed his little daughter Kirihami, aged 4 years, owing to a quarrel with his wife for being late in preparing his meals. Appuwa was acquitted.

9. Appu, a Siṇhalese toddy-drawer, aged 35, asked Punchi Banda, a Siṇhalese, aged 20, of the same calling, to stand security for him. Punchi Banda refused; and on April 26, 1887, at Katugastota, Punchi Banda was found murdered with his throat cut. Appu and another Siṇhalese accused in this case were discharged for want of evidence.

10. On May 10, 1887, Menika, a Siṇhalese woman, aged 25, of the Mátalé district, had an altercation with another woman, a neighbour, about a missing jacket which Menika had lent. Menika received the value of the jacket, but continued to use abusive language towards the woman to whom she had lent the jacket and her husband, Cornalis Appu. Whereupon Cornalis Appu, a Siṇhalese, aged 30, a Fiscal's peon, laid hold of Menika by her hair, and kicked her so severely that it caused her death. Cornalis Appu received one year's rigorous imprisonment.

11. Wasadewayen, a Tamil cooly, aged 28, was residing with Appu Naide, a Siṇhalese cultivator, aged 35, of the Galagedara district. On May 24, 1887, Appu Naide, having lost a pair of bangles belonging to his daughter, asked Wasadewayen if he had them. Wasadewayen taking umbrage at this, stabbed Appu Naide in the stomach with a knife, causing death. Wasadewayen was acquitted.

12. On May 28, 1887, in the Katugastota district, Kerimanika, a Siṇhalese begger woman, aged 65, was found murdered in her hut with her throat cut. Loku Banda and Ukku Banda, two Siṇhalese, arrested on suspicion, were discharged. This occurred within a short distance of the Raṭémahatmáya's walawwe.

13. On June 2, 1887, Gang Ettu, a Siṇhalese, aged 40, a gambler, was found lying in a patana in the Bandarawela district, with his skull fractured and a stab wound on the left arm. He was removed to hospital senseless, and expired the following day. No clue has been obtained in this case.

14. On June 13, 1887, in the Koslanda district, Abaran, a Siṇhalese cultivator, aged 30, was on his way to Buttala, when he was shot at and killed by Sirimalhami, a Siṇhalese cultivator, aged 33, whose mistress Abaran had taken away by force about six months previously. Andrishami and Gabriel, two Siṇhalese cultivators, aged 17 and 22, helped Andrishami to remove the body to a jungle, and there burn it. Andrishami and Gabriel were sentenced to five years' rigorous imprisonment each, and Sirimalhami was acquitted.

15. Wathuwa, a Sinhalese cultivator, aged 30, was on terms of intimacy with the wife of Appuhami, a Sinhalese cultivator, of the Urugalla district. On July 23, 1887, Appuhami happened to see Wathuwa in a tree gathering fruit. Appuhami went for his gun and shot at Wathuwa, who fell to the ground dead. Appuhami was acquitted, although he confessed his guilt to the police.

16. About August 15, 1887, the body of Karunduhami, a Sinhalese cultivator, aged 25, was discovered in the river at Udugama, in Ramboda, beyond police limits. The head and right arm were severed from the body. Ukkurale, an uncle of Katanduhami, and two other Sinhalese who were taken up on suspicion, were discharged by the Crown Counsel for want of evidence.

17. Charles Appu and Thomishami, two Sinhalese cart-drivers of the Matalé district, aged 28 and 27, were keeping a woman of loose character; and on learning that a man named Sinnochy visited their woman, they armed themselves with clubs and went to Sinnochy's house on the night of September 13, 1887, and knocked at the door. Kirihami, a Sinhalese servant, aged 25, opened the door and, being mistaken for Sinnochy, was struck on the head with a club by Charles Appu. Kirihami died from the injuries received. The case is pending.

18. On October 19, 1887, in the Lindula district, Peria Tamby, a Tamil carter, aged 35, was loading his cart with cinchona bark. Carpena, a Tamil cooly, aged 25, placed a wrong bag in Peria Tamby's cart. This led to a dispute, which resulted in Peria Tamby being severely assaulted with clubs by Karpena Saibo, a Moor cooly, aged 30, and two other Tamil coolies, Matchy and Muttoosamy, aged 40 and 22. Peria Tamby died from the wounds received. Saibo and Matchy were sentenced to six years,' and Carpena and Muttusamy to six months' rigorous imprisonment each.

19. On December 8, 1887, in the Watawela district, Weerappen, a Tamil cooly, aged 21, cut the throat of Pitche, a Tamil lad of 6, and removed from his person ornaments to the value of Rs. 25. Weerappen is still at large.

Manslaughters.

1. On January 2, 1887, in the Dimbula district, Kandasami, a Tamil cooly, aged 22, had a quarrel with a Tamil woman about a measure of rice. The husband of the woman, Kalimuttu, a Tamil kangany, aged 27, took up the quarrel, and in a scuffle that followed was thrown by Kandasami against a large stone, which caused death. Kandasami was acquitted.

2. On the night of January 28, 1887, in the Badulla district, Vanukkurala, an old Sinhalese cultivator, aged 50, was watching his cornfield with a loaded gun. Hearing and seeing what he supposed was a wild animal destroying his crop, he fired and killed Appuhami, a Sinhalese cultivator, aged 25. Vanukkurala was discharged.

3. On March 13, 1887, Punchirala, a Sinhalese cultivator, aged 35, of the Walapane district, died from the effects of an assault committed with hands by Gangolirala, a Sinhalese cultivator, aged 45. The deceased had in his possession at the time some green arecanuts stolen from the garden of Gangalirala. Gangalirala and two other Sinhalese accused in the case were discharged.

4. On March 12, 1887, in the Galagedara district, Mutumenika, a Sinhalese widow, aged 25, brought forth a female child. A Buddhist priest, Mutukalyana Unnánse, the reputed father, destroyed it by strangling, in order to conceal the birth. Mutumenika was acquitted.

5. On March 6, 1887, a party of Sinhalese men went out to shoot wild animals in a jungle in the Mátalé district. Whilst hunting, Dingirala, a cultivator, aged 28, was mistaken for a wild animal, and was shot at and killed by Keerala, a cultivator, aged 29. Keerala was acquitted.

6. Kirihami and Appuhami, both Sinhalese cultivators of the Galagedara district, aged 48 and 38, were joint owners of a piece of land. On May 6, 1887, Kirihami's son picked a young cocoanut from a tree growing on the land, for which Appuhami struck the boy. Kirihami, the boy's father, abused Appuhami for striking his son, and Appuhami struck Kirihami on the chest with his fist. Kirihami fell on a rock, broke his left hand, and died the following day. Appuhami was discharged.

7. On the night of May 27, 1887, in the Mátalé district, Poola and Kirisunda, two Sinhalese cultivators, aged 30 and 23, broke into the house of Anagori, an old Sinhalese woman, aged 70. Anagori, on crying out, was struck on the face with some heavy instrument, from the effects of which she died about ten days afterwards. Both the accused were discharged.

8. On July 8, 1887, in the Mátalé district, Keerala, a Sinhalese cultivator, aged 30, returned from his work and asked his wife, Tikiri Manika, aged 23, for something to eat. She said nothing was ready. Upon which Keerala flew into a passion and struck her a blow with his hand. Tikiri Manika died the following day. Keerala was acquitted.

9. About September 2, 1887, in the Lunugala district, beyond police limits, Mukuluthun Natchi, a Moor woman, aged 25, died from the effects of a wound inflicted on her head with some blunt instrument by her husband Meera Saibo, a Moor cultivator, aged 40, in consequence of a domestic quarrel. Meera Saibo is awaiting his trial before the Supreme Court.

10. On August 3, 1887, in the Galagedara district, Manika, a Sinhalese cultivator, aged 15, was stealing cocoanuts from a tree in the garden of Hindagella pansala. Sumana, the Buddhist priest of the pansala, aged 55, seeing the lad, fired at him with a pistol and wounded him. Manika fell down to the ground, and some time after expired. Sumana and Saranankara, another Buddhist priest who was charged, were acquitted.

SOUTHERN PROVINCE.

Murders.

1. Jayahami, a Sinhalese cultivator, aged 36, was killed, and four others wounded with katties and clubs by Suwaris, a Sinhalese cultivator, aged 36, and four others, over a land dispute. Of the five accused, three were discharged. Suwaris and the third accused, Tennis, were sentenced to four years' hard labour each.

2. Baburala, a Sinhalese blacksmith, aged 40, was waylaid by Wado, a Sinhalese washerman, aged 25, and four others, who had an old grudge against him. They stabbed him till he died. First, second, and third accused were sentenced to ten years' hard labour each; fourth and fifth accused were discharged.

3. Heenhami, a Sinhalese girl, aged 10, was stabbed in the chest with a knife and killed in a family row. Of the nine Sinhalese accused (whose ages are not known), the first was sentenced to seven years' hard labour, second, third, fourth, sixth, and eighth were each sentenced to one year's hard labour. The rest of the accused were discharged.

4. Four Sinhalese men in a drunken fit murdered with katties Babuwa, a Sinhalese dhoby, aged 25. First accused Kalu Appu, a cultivator, aged 25, was sentenced to four years' hard labour. The second accused was acquitted, and the rest were discharged. Motive, anger.

5. Seyadoris, a Sinhalese, aged 30, killed Odris De Silva, vidáne arachchi of Sinigama, aged 40, with a pounder, whilst he was entering accused's house after dark to arrest him without a warrant. The accused and four others were acquitted.

6. Seyadoris, aged 30, and four other Sinhalese, killed with clubs and pounders Don Issan De Silva, police headman, of Malewana, aged 40, when in company of the murdered man mentioned in a case No. 5. The accused were all acquitted by the Supreme Court. Bad feeling had existed between the parties for years.

7. Basnayekage Nicholashami, a Sinhalese cultivator, aged 18, and Weerasinghe Patiranege Subehami, aged 50, whilst playing cards with Vihala Badalge Bastian, a Sinhalese goldsmith, aged 60, quarrelled over the game; and B. Nicholashami struck the latter dead with a pounder. Second accused, Subehami, was discharged, and the first accused Nicholashami was sentenced to four years' hard labour.

8. Muthusami, a Tamil watcher, aged 25, in a drunken fit, and with the intention of robbing his master during his absence, killed with a knife Mrs. E. Van Schoonbeck, aged 53; Miss M. Berenger, aged 13; Babahami

a Sinhalese cooly woman, aged 45; Saudris, a Sinhalese watcher, aged 26; Barnes, a Sinhalese cooly boy, aged 10; Kamel a Sinhalese cooly boy, aged 13; and Andris, a Sinhalese servant, aged 18. The accused was hanged.

9. Don Denis, a Sinhalese cultivator, aged 33, murdered Davidhami, his brother, aged 25, by a blow with a kattie on the neck, whilst Davidhami was working in a paddy field, because a soothsayer had informed him that his brother had robbed his house. Accused Don Denis was sentenced to death.

10. Addippulege Appu Singho, a Sinhalese cultivator, aged 25, having taken part in a quarrel which originated between his sister and another woman, struck another cultivator, aged 50, a blow with a club and killed him. The accused was sentenced to five years' hard labour.

11. Emanisa, a Sinhalese boy, aged 8, was waylaid and killed. The police discovered that Dawanhami, a Sinhalese, aged 19, and his father Baborisa, a noted bad character, aged 40, who hated the boy's family, had committed the murder. The two accused were sentenced to death.

12 and 13. Mailappuge Punchihami, a Sinhalese woman, aged 28, in the absence of her husband from home, in a fit of insanity, killed with a katty her two children, one a boy, five years old, and the other a girl, aged four months. Case is under investigation, and the accused has been remanded to the house of observation.

14. Penis, a Sinhalese cultivator, aged 18, on being discovered by Bastian, a boutique-keeper, aged 28, at the house of his mistress Sanitha, stabbed Bastian and killed him. The accused Penis was sentenced to death, and hanged.

15. In a dispute between one Carolis and the accused persons, Christina, a girl, 10 months old, was struck with a stick aimed at Carolis, and killed. The first accused Wikkrame Disias, a Sinhalese cultivator, aged 27, was sentenced to seven years' hard labour, and the third accused, Salmane Kancanange Hendo, aged 24, was sentenced to four years' hard labour. The second accused was acquitted.

16 and 17. Weerapulle Radage Ancho, a washerwoman, aged 45, and her daughter Nono, aged 9, were strangled to death by Babuwa, a dhoby, aged 27, with the aid of another dhoby named Edaya, aged 28, in revenge for taking away all their customers. Case pending.

18. Yebanage Allisa, a Sinhalese cultivator, aged 25, was shot by Kaludurage Janisa, another cultivator, aged 46, whilst stealing arecanuts from the accused's garden. Case pending.

19. The body of S. K. Tavis, a Sinhalese cultivator, aged 45, was found floating in an abandoned plumbago pit. He had evidently been killed by clubs, probably whilst stealing cocoanuts. A Sinhalese cultivator, Pedris, aged 40, and a trader, Peko Appu, aged 45, both of Kalutara, are suspected. Case pending.

20. Alli Muhandiran Omam Kattu, a Moorman trader, aged 40, whilst journeying to Sabaragamuwa was shot by Meera Saibo, aged 30, and Mohidin Bawa, aged 60, finished him with a firestick. These men while travelling together quarrelled over a lost bull. Accused were discharged for want of evidence.

Manslaughters.

1. A Sinhalese headman named K. P. Bastian De Silva Ninalo Gunesekara, aged 26, had as mistress a Sinhalese woman, aged 25. On her becoming pregnant he poisoned her to cause abortion, which killed her. Owing to an important witness in this case having died, the case has been laid over *sine die*.

2. Mathoy, a Sinhalese labourer, aged 45, was waylaid and assaulted with sticks by the following men to pay off a grudge, viz.:—Nando, a Sinhalese labourer, aged 22; Sedo, a Sinhalese toddy-drawer, aged 28; Arnolis, a Sinhalese trader, aged 28; Sandorisa, a Sinhalese toddy-drawer, aged 21. The accused were all discharged for want of evidence.

3. A scuffle took place between one Topanis and the following accused persons, in which Anohami, a female, aged 25, was struck with a stick and killed, viz.:—Denishami, a Sinhalese cultivator, aged 30; Juanis Appu, a Sinhalese cultivator, aged 23; Adoris, a Sinhalese cultivator, aged 32; Podi Appu, a Sinhalese cultivator, aged 30; Baba Appu, a Sinhalese cultivator, aged 22; Seyadoris, a Sinhalese cultivator, aged 20. The accused were all discharged.

4. Babun, a Sinhalese grass-cutter, aged 25, in revenge assaulted his wife Desena, aged 30, with a stick. She was taken to the hospital and died there. The accused was sentenced to twelve months' hard labour.

5. At Thaladeniya, a quarrel took place about some firewood, and Don Samuel, a Sinhalese cultivator, aged 20, was badly assaulted with sticks by (1) Hendrick Appu, a Sinhalese cultivator, aged 23; (2) Don Davit, a Sinhalese cultivator, aged 25; (3) Javan, a Sinhalese cultivator, aged 21. The first accused, Hendrick Appu, was sentenced to four years' hard labour. The second and third accused were acquitted.

6. Upon a petition presented to the Solicitor General, the Superintendent of Police, Southern Province, inquired into a suspected case of murder of Kaluarachchige Punchihami, of Hovia in Mátara district, aged 18. The Coroner, jury, and doctor, all were of opinion that she was drowned accidentally; but from the appearance of the stream in which she is said to have been drowned, and other reasons, the Superintendent still believes she died by other means. Inquiries are being made, but with little hope of the case ever being proved, as the police were called in too late. The following were suspected at the commencement, viz.:—(1) Abaranhami, a Sinhalese cultivator, aged 50; (2) Kirihami, a Sinhalese cultivator, aged 30; (3) Punchi Appu, a Sinhalese cultivator, aged 35.

NORTHERN PROVINCE.

Murder.

1. Parvatti, a Tamil woman, aged 28, gave birth to a child at Sarasalai; and she and her father Kadravalu aged 50, were charged with killing the child, which was found dead. They were tried and acquitted.

Manslaughters.

1. In a quarrel among toddy-drawers at Siruvilai, Swamy Susay, aged 32, wounded Nicholai Antony, aged 30, on the head with a curved knife. Anthony died in the hospital four days after. Swamy Susay has been committed for trial.

2. At Elalai, Vairvy Visuvanaden, aged 14, a shepherd boy, used abusive language to Vairaven Neelan, aged 18, for striking a sheep. Neelan threw a stone, which fractured the skull of Visuvanaden, who died in hospital a week after. Neelan has been committed for trial.

3. Piranchi Anthony, aged 28, a Tamil of Pavilupaddankaddi Kudiyiruppu, in the Mannár district, committed culpable homicide by beating Chavai Philippu, a Tamil of the same place, with a cudgel. The accused was convicted and sentenced to one year's imprisonment.

4. Veerasamy Marimuttu, a coast Tamil of Katankulam, in the Mannár district, committed homicide by shooting Anthony Nicolan, a Tamil, aged 36, of the same place. The accused was acquitted, as there was no reason to suppose that the shooting was anything but accidental.

5. Bastian Krues, a Tamil of Arippu, in the Mannár district, was charged with culpable homicide for leaving a well in his premises unprotected, in consequence of which his child Anthony Krues fell into the well and was drowned. The accused was fined Rs. 20 in the Police Court.

6. M. Kachchu Muhamadu, aged 20, M. Kader Saibu, R. Alla Pitchai, and Kaka Marakaijar Kalu Marakayar, Moormen of Vannarponnai, in the Mannár district, committed culpable homicide by beating Abdul Kader, a Moorman, aged 32, with sticks. The accused were tried, and first accused convicted and sentenced to eight years' imprisonment.

EASTERN PROVINCE.

Murders.

1. At Trincomalee, Abdul Raman, a Muhammedan, aged 22, whose body was exhumed from the compound of the accused Mohamad Hossen, is supposed to have been murdered by M. Hossen for stealing one cwt. of copper. Case pending. M. Hossen has absconded to India. A warrant has been sent for his apprehension.

2. At Trincomalee, J. Manuel, a Tamil, aged 22, was stabbed to death by his accomplices, mistaking him for some one else, whilst engaged in ransacking a chest they had robbed. Case pending.

3. At Batticaloa, K. P. Nagappen, a Tamil, aged 45, was stabbed to death by his nephew. The accused evaded arrest since 1883, and was arrested in 1887. He was convicted of culpable homicide not amounting to murder, and sentenced to ten years' rigorous imprisonment.

4. At Batticaloa, Ramasamy, a Tamil, aged 35, was assaulted; and his throat cut by another Tamil named K. Moorandan. The accused was convicted of culpable homicide not amounting to murder, and sentenced to one year's rigorous imprisonment.

5. At Batticaloa, K. Nagamam, a Tamil, killed Kanepady, another Tamil man, aged 20, by striking him with a mamoty. The accused was convicted of culpable homicide not amounting to murder, and sentenced to six years' rigorous imprisonment.

6. At Batticaloa, S. Assenar, a man aged 40, and S. Patumma, a woman aged 50, both Tamils, are charged with murdering an infant, the illegitimate child of the first accused. The case is committed for trial before the Supreme Court.

7. At Batticaloa, Vyrama, a Tamil woman, aged 25, was beaten to death by two Tamil men (the first accused being the husband of the deceased), and the corpse put into a pipe well. The case is committed for trial before the Supreme Court.

NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCE.

Murders.

1. Nineteen miles from Kurunégala police station, Kirihami, a Siṇhalese man, aged 18, was shot by Loranso, a native of the same village, for crossing a boundary fence. The accused was tried and acquitted.

2. Forty miles from Kurunégala police station, Kikiri Etena, a Siṇhalese woman, aged 30, died from the effects of assault committed on her by her husband. The accused was convicted of culpable homicide not amounting to murder, and sentenced to three months' rigorous imprisonment.

3. Eighteen miles from Kurunégala, Appu, a Siṇhalese man, aged 50, was shot dead by Appuhami. The accused was convicted and sentenced to death, and was hanged.

4. Eleven miles from Kurunégala, the body of Manika Naide, a Siṇhalese man, aged 30 or so, was found partly eaten by wild beasts. He is supposed to have been killed by Simon Naide in anger, as the deceased had married a woman the accused intended to take as wife. The accused was discharged on the instruction of the Crown Counsel for want of evidence.

5. Thirty-three miles from Kurunégala, Punchy Appu, a Siṇhalese man, aged 35, was waylaid and murdered by the accused Alaris Perera, Ponseanu Perera, and fourteen others. Seven accused were committed for trial; the first and second were convicted of murder and sentenced to death, and hanged; the fourth and fifth were convicted and sentenced to ten years' rigorous imprisonment each; the third accused died in jail; and the sixth and seventh were acquitted.

6. Ten miles from Kurunégala, Setta, a Siṇhalese man, aged 25, was shot by Ranghami. The accused lost a heifer and found the animal tethered in the jungle. With the object of detecting the thieves the accused proceeded to the spot armed with a gun, and on the deceased coming to slaughter the animal fired at him. The deceased died in the hospital. The accused was tried and acquitted.

7. The victim was an infant six months old, an illegitimate child of Bande Etena, niece of the first accused, Punchyrala, and sister of the second accused, Appuhami. The child was a source of annoyance to the accused, and with the object of getting rid of the child they buried him alive in spite of the entreaties of the mother. The accused were convicted of murder and sentenced to death, and hanged.

8. Sixteen miles from Kurunégala, Kaluhami, a Siṇhalese man, aged 34, was found murdered in a jungle. The accused, Punchi Naide, a headman, is supposed to have enticed the deceased and murdered him. Accused was discharged for want of evidence.

9. At Kurunégala, Guruhami, a Siṇhalese, aged 35, a reputed thief, was found missing. The accused, Renghami, is supposed to have murdered him. The accused was discharged by the Solicitor-General, as the body was not found.

10. Thirty-two miles from Kurunégala, Mathes Appu, a Siṇhalese man, aged 22, a notorious cattle-stealer, was assaulted by Naide, Andinaidege Sinno, Herathami, and Atanchi Naide, Siṇhalese, aged 30, 35, 28, and 30, respectively, with clubs, from the effects of which he died two hours after. The accused were tried and acquitted.

11. Thirty-three miles from Kurunégala, the remains of a Siṇhalese man named Ukku Naide were found in an oya cut into pieces. Mudalihami and four others were suspected of the crime. The accused were discharged for want of evidence.

12. At Kurunégala, Lapaya, a Siṇhalese man, was beaten to death by Kiri Banda and five others. The accused were tried and acquitted.

13. Eighteen miles from Kurunégala, Porlengurala, a Siṇhalese man, aged 45, was assaulted by Appuhami and two others with an axe. The first accused was convicted of murder and sentenced to death, and hanged. The two others were acquitted.

14. Nine miles from Kurunégala, Gabriel, a Siṇhalese, together with another, stabbed to death Jago Fernando, a Siṇhalese, aged 40. The motive for killing was the failure of paying a debt incurred at the time the accused and the deceased were gambling. The case is pending.

15. Six miles from Puttalam, Muttu Carpen Taven, a Tamil, aged 38, was assaulted by Muttu Carpen with a katty and a sword, and died in hospital. Case pending.

16. At Gonávila, in the Chilaw district, Anthony Perera, a Siṇhalese man, aged 45, was stabbed to death by Paulus Perera. The motive for killing was because the deceased reprimanded the accused openly for misbehaving in the church. The accused was convicted and sentenced to fifteen years' rigorous imprisonment.

17. At Gonávila, in the Chilaw district, Rapiel Perera, a Siṇhalese man, aged 28, by profession a goldsmith, was murdered by Thesa, *alias* Moses, Martino, *alias* Mawwa, and W. Elaris Pieris. The accused were convicted and sentenced to death, and hanged.

18. At Gonávila, in the Chilaw district, Juscy Perera, a Siṇhalese man, aged 45, by profession a goldsmith, was murdered by Thesa, *alias* Moses, Martino, *alias* Mawwa, and Elaris Pieris. The accused were tried and convicted and sentenced to death, and hanged.

Manslaughters.

1. Twenty-three miles from Kurunégala, Mudalihami, a Siṇhalese man, aged 30, was assaulted by Kiri Banda and eight others, whilst out detecting a case of illicit drawing of toddy. Kiri Banda was tried and sentenced to three years' rigorous imprisonment. The others were discharged.

2. Twelve miles from Kurunégala, Keria, a Sinhalese man, aged 50, who kept a gambling-house, died from the effects of an assault committed on him by Anadahami Arachchi and three others, for not giving the names of the gamblers. The accused were discharged by order of Crown Counsel.

3. Nine miles from Kurunégala, Daniel Appu, a Siṇhalese man, aged 27, was assaulted by Suppa, Kadruval, and Pitche, Tamils, aged 30, 25, and 20, respectively, from the effects of which he died. The accused were convicted and sentenced to ten years' rigorous imprisonment each.

N.B.—Out of the eighteen murders and three manslaughters in the North-Western Province, fifteen murders were committed from six to forty miles beyond police limits, the average distance being over twenty-four miles.

G. W. R. CAMPBELL,
Inspector-General of Police.

APPENDIX II.

CEYLON POLICE SANCTIONED STRENGTH AND COST.

Ranks.	Rates of Pay. Rs.	On December 31, 1886. No.	Yearly Pay. Rs.	On December 31, 1887. No.	Yearly Pay. Rs.
Inspector-General*	12,000	1	12,000	1	12,000
Superintendents	5,000	2	10,000	2	10,000
Do.	4,000	2	8,000	2	8,000
Assistant Superintendents	3,500	2	7,000	2	7,000
Do.	2,500	1	2,500	1	2,500
Do.	2,000	1	2,000	1	2,000
Do.	1,500	1	1,500	1	1,500
Band Master	3,600	1	3,600	†	—
First Class Inspector	1,500	3	4,500	3	4,500
Second do.	1,200	6	7,200	6	7,200
Third do.	1,000	10	10,000	10	10,000
Fourth do.	840	7	5,880	9	7,560
First Class European Sergeants	840	3	2,520	3	2,520
Second do.	720	5	3,600	8	5,760
First Class European Constables	576	8	4,608	8	4,608
Second do	432	12	5,184	11	4,752
Third do.	360	16	5,760	12	4,320
First Class Native Sergeants	480	76	35,040	74	35,520
Second do.	320	118	37,760	114	36,480
First Class Native Constables	270	280	75,600	277	74,790
Second do.	210	419	87,990	410	86,100
Third do.	180	554	99,720	545	98,100
Head Clerk	1,700	1	1,700	1	1,700
Clerk and Storekeeper	720	1	720	1	720
Clerk	900	1	900	1	900
Do.	800	2	1,600	2	1,600
Do.	700	4	2,800	4	2,800
Do.	600	8	4,800	8	4,800
Do.	500	4	2,000	4	2,000
Do.	480	2	960	2	960
Do.	400	1	400	1	400
Office coolies	90	2	180	2	180
Powder Magazine Keeper	360	1	360	1	360
Do.	150	1	150	1	150
		1,555	450,212	1,528	441,780

Allowances.	Rent, per Annum. Rs. c.	Forage, per Annum. Rs. c.	Mileage. Rs. c.	Subsistence Allowance when absent from Station (per Diem). Rs. c.
Inspector-General	1,200 0	840 0	0 75	10 0
Superintendent, Western Province	1,000 0	420 0	0 75	7 50
Do. Central Province	720 0	420 0	0 75	7 50
Do. Southern Province	500 0	420 0	0 75	7 50
Do. Northern, Eastern, and North-Western Provinces	1,000 0	420 0	0 75	7 50
Assistant Superintendent	600 0	420 0	0 75	7 50
Do.	600 0	420 0	0 75	7 50
Do.	360 0	420 0	0 50	4 0
Do.	360 0	420 0	0 50	4 0
Do.	360 0	420 0	0 50	4 0
Inspectors	300 0	420 0	0 50	4 0
Sergeants, European	—	—	—	From 0 75 to 1 0
Constables, do.				
Sergeants, Native	—	—	—	From 0 37 to 0 50
Constables, do.				

At some distant or expensive stations, as Hambantota, Rakwána, Badulla, and few others, all ranks receive a batta of one-fourth of their salary.

The actual amount paid by Government on account of police was as follows :—

	1886. Rs.	c.			1887. Rs.	c.
Salaries	447,968	91			450,244	92
All contingent charges, including charges for clothing and travelling, for transport and food of prisoners, for removing sick and burying dead paupers and burying carcases, &c	115,652	41			113,562	38
	563,621	32			563,807	30
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.		
Of which repaid by Municipalities	88,805	41	85,709	23		
Villages and Towns	60,452	12	58,605	4		
Prisons, private individuals, &c	25,670	1	21,375	99		
			174,927	54	165,690	26
Total Police charges paid from General Revenue			388,693	78	398,117	4

* Is also Inspector-General of Prisons with Rs. 3,000.

† Police Band was abolished on July 31, 1887.

PRISONS.

REPORT OF THE INSPECTOR-GENERAL FOR 1887.

THIS report, as usual, is in four Parts:—Part I., a Summary of the Principal Statistics of all Prisons and Prisoners in 1887 and previous years; Part II., a similar Summary as regards the Convict Establishment; Part III., Provincial Prisons; and Part IV., General Remarks. It has three appendices:—(I.) The Report of the Superintendent of the Convict Establishment; (II.) the Report of the Medical Officer of the Convict Establishment and Hulftsdorp Prison; and (III.) Tables of Statistics from A. to S.

2. I am glad to say that it will be found a comparatively favourable report, confirming in all respects the Police report, to the effect that crime in Ceylon is on the whole not increasing, and that it is more effectually dealt with than it ever was before.

PART I.—PRISONS AND PRISONERS.

3. The following tabulated statement sets forth clearly several important facts:—

	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.
Total number of criminal cases* ...	83,177	64,668	59,388	54,720	54,344	57,999	62,845	71,177	50,406	52,815	48,755
Total number of persons committed to prison from all courts ...	9,608	14,030	12,533	13,935	20,711	20,824	21,066	21,258	20,654	14,076	9,810
Deduct Road Ordinance defaulters	3,251	8,129	7,532	8,611	14,839	15,147	15,283	14,838	12,654	5,529	2,653
	6,357	5,901	5,001	5,324	5,872	5,677	5,783	6,420	8,000	8,547	7,157
Daily average in prison of convicted persons	2,006	1,976	1,612	2,051	2,422	2,603	2,688	2,673	3,448	3,627	3,314
Deduct women	38	34	17	22	27	25	15	17	29	32	23
Deduct Road Ordinance defaulters	65	109	102	114	194	182	213	188	128	40	27
Deduct those sentenced to simple imprisonment	10	4	2	5	7	8	6	5	30	46	31
	1,893	1,829	1,491	1,910	2,194	2,388	2,454	2,463	3,261	3,509	3,233
Persons hanged	12	7	7	8	13	11	7	11	8	18	26

4. The one discouraging fact is that there have been more murders and executions in 1887 than usual, and for this there is no means of accounting. Twenty-six persons were hanged against 18 in the previous year. All the other totals in the statement are satisfactory, as may be seen by a glance at the first and last columns, when the increase of population and better detection of crime are borne in mind; and we see, if we compare the two last columns, which are for 1886 and 1887, that the total of committals has gone down, in a single year, from 14,076 to 9,810, the road defaulters have gone down from 5,529 to 2,653, and the daily average of convicted prisoners in jail from 3,627 to 3,314. The table shows that whilst in past years the number of criminals and criminal cases brought before the courts was greater than at present, there were neither so many convictions nor such heavy sentences. The great change which took place in 1885, when the daily average of convicted persons rose at a bound from 2,673 to 3,448, will be observed in the middle of the statement. That change was due to the new Criminal Codes, which have enabled the junior courts to inflict double the punishment they could formerly inflict, and which have rendered justice more speedy and certain.

5. In the third item from the top of the statement it will be found that the Road Ordinance defaulters have gone down from 15,283 in 1883, 14,838 in 1884, 12,654 in 1885, 5,529 in 1886, to 2,653 in 1887—a great change for the better, brought about by the excellent new Thoroughfares Ordinance, 31 of 1884—a change which, I believe, has had an equally good effect on the revenue.

6. As usual, the extreme fewness of the female convicts in Ceylon is most remarkable. I cannot yet find any better way of accounting for it than by again quoting the words of a gang of convicts who were discussing the fact: "Our women do not drink or gamble," said they. Stop the drinking and gambling of the men, which could be done to a great extent, and they too would soon cease to crowd the jails as at present.

* The figures in this line are taken from the Attorney-General's Statistics.

7. The number of convicts in prison on the last day of each year was as follows :—

	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.
Two weeks and under ...	89	494	117	50	104	44	67	94	117	119	53
One month do. ...	119	102	69	79	101	131	90	166	719	440	305
Three months do. ...	409	342	196	259	301	288	201	300	387	344	253
Six months do. ...	124	114	83	126	111	109	109	91	541	563	597
Twelve months do. ...	291	249	198	409	410	335	242	275	282	263	298
Five years do. ...	599	522	396	675	697	967	939	786	1,058	988	959
Over five years	361	332	341	479	657	571	766	888	918	879	849
Life	23	20	19	36	45	50	52	52	45	52	10
Under sentence of death ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	7	3
	2,015	2,175	1,419	2,113	2,426	2,495	2,466	2,652	4,075	3,655	3,327
Deduct Road Ordinance defaulters	89	473	77	34	82	25	60	57	49	19	100
Total ...	1,926	1,702	1,342	2,079	2,344	2,470	2,406	2,595	4,026	3,636	3,227

8. The increase in the number of sentences of from six months to five years is very marked.

9. The following is a classified summary of the committals from the Supreme Court and District Courts for the last eleven years :—

	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.
Offences against the person ...	333	263	365	499	458	404	423	426	416	403	404
Offences against property :—											
(a) With violence ...	104	103	228	342	277	291	286	250	323	202	108
(b) Without violence { Cattle-stealing ...	164	183	137	326	374	308	222	236	130	124	65
(b) Without violence { Others ..	109	103	157	264	299	251	200	143	221	198	169
Malicious injury to property ...	1	3	—	—	—	2	4	6	—	16	—
Forgery, perjury, and offences against the currency ...	55	15	29	64	47	39	50	38	47	46	51
Offences not included in foregoing, including breaches of local Ordinances	80	66	43	89	66	39	42	64	78	47	104
Total ...	846	736	959	1,584	1,451	1,334	1,227	1,163	1,215	1,036	901

10. The figures for 1887 are, on the whole, more favourable than those for the previous year.

11. The following statement affords information regarding the cost of Ceylon jails :—

	Total Expenditure.					Approximate Cost per Head.				
	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Establishment ...	138,411	144,984	157,079	158,609	162,141	45	48	41	40	44½
Dieting	202,811	193,908	235,917	260,898	244,324	65½	64	61¾	66	66½
Hospital charges ...	4,495	7,088	8,231	6,405	5,647	1½	2¼	2	2	1½
Clothing and bedding ...	20,818	24,663	39,651	34,633	31,190	6¾	8	10½	9	8½
Lighting	7,879	7,851	8,024	8,304	7,189	2½	2½	2	2	1½
Materials for manufacture ...	6,679	3,992	12,384	4,002	2,403	2¼	1¼	3¼	1	0¾
Other expenditure ...	44,378	54,954	55,164	51,222	46,426	14¼	18¼	14½	12	12½
Total ...	425,471	437,440	516,450	524,073	499,320	137¾	144¼	135	132	136

12. In previous years the annual cost per head was as follows :—

	Rs.		Rs.
1876	167	1880	165
1877	180	1881	148
1878	173	1882	144
1879	195		

13. The following statement gives some information regarding escapes :—

	Escapes.	Recaptures.		Escapes.	Recaptures.
1876 ...	34 ...	36	1882 ...	29 ...	21
1877 ...	37 ...	29	1883 ...	28 ...	23
1878 ...	35 ...	32	1884 ...	43 ...	29
1879 ...	31 ...	28	1885 ...	47 ...	47
1880 ...	41 ...	32	1886 ...	53 ...	47
1881 ...	19 ...	18	1887 ...	37 ...	42

Total escapes during twelve years, 434 ; Recaptures, 384.

14. The prisons which had the most escapes during 1887 were as follows :—

	Escapes.	Recaptures.
Kurunégala	8 ...	9
Puttalam	7 ...	4
Kégalla	4 ...	5
Badulla	4 ...	4
Galle	3 ...	2

15. Regarding this I have nothing better to say than what I said last year :—

The wonder is, not that it is so large, but that it is so small. Considering the amount of outdoor work the prisoners do, and that the country is so thickly clad with high scrub and forest, and that the guards are so few and so miserably paid and poor, and consequently open to temptation, it is a wonder that more prisoners do not make their escape. The country is an Island, however, which they do not like to leave, and they are pretty sure to be re-taken sooner or later, and perhaps get flogged, of which they have a very wholesome fear. In the large central jails of the Prison Establishment, where the discipline is good, they very seldom escape, though there they are the hardest worked, the longest sentenced, and the boldest and worst criminals.

16. Of the prisoners who escape, a large number are recaptured. Including those who escaped in previous years, the recaptures outnumbered the escapes in 1887.

PART II.—THE CONVICT ESTABLISHMENT.

17. The following shows the principal features of the four prisons comprising this Establishment :—

Prisons.	Cells.	Wards.	To hold.	Greatest Number in Prison during the Year.	Daily Average.		Number of Deaths.
					All inmates.	Sick.	
Welikada	418	5*	608	709	558	17	28
Welikada Hospital† ...	1	9	136				
Slave Island	241	1	248	396	380	5	1
Breakwater	144	—	144				
Mahara	52	8	407	379	329	15	—
Total...	856	23	1,543	1,484	1,267	37	29

18. The Convict Establishment had thus during 1887 considerably less than half the prison population of the Colony, a matter which I regret, as the Establishment provides much harder punishment and maintains much better discipline than the provincial jails, and has consequently a more deterrent effect. The Convict Establishment had fewer than its usual proportion of convicts, because in all the jails there have been fewer inmates than in the previous year, and the Superintendents of the provincial jails had, as a rule, necessary local public works more than sufficient for all their own men. To this I shall revert further on. Another reason why the Convict Establishment was kept less full than I should like is, that convicts cannot in some cases be transferred from their own unhealthy districts to the healthier climate of the Western Province. The numerous Kurunégala prisoners, for instance, when taken from their own somewhat malarious climate to a healthier atmosphere often suffer more from fever than if left where they were—a phenomenon as regards fever well known in some parts of India. Further, the convalescent seaside jails at Negombo and Kalutara always absorb a large number of men who would otherwise be in the Convict Establishment, and the salt manufacturing jail at Hambantota does so also.

19. All the jails of the Convict Establishment have been fairly healthy during the year under review, the deaths having been 29 out of an average population of 1,267. Mahara, however, always furnishes a large number of cases of fever ; and I find it almost impossible to keep it supplied with European officers, so deadly is the climate to them. The present excellent Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Mooney, is in a state of health which causes me anxiety ; and his two predecessors, during a very few preceding months, almost lost their lives from Mahara fever.

20. The Convict Establishment suffered a great loss on August 16 of the year under review in the death of Captain Wyndham Thompson, who had been its Superintendent for thirteen years. In him Government lost a very honourable, upright, and intelligent servant, and his officers and convicts a good disciplinarian, who was at the same time a humane and sympathetic man. His manner and address towards other Departments and towards all were such as to avoid that friction which so much retards work. For myself, I felt his loss greatly. In the absence on leave in England of Mr. Lloyd, Captain Thompson's duties were ably carried on for several months by Mr. Assistant Superintendent Marcus Mooney, and when Mr. Lloyd returned from leave that officer took them up. Though he conducts them very ably, the Department is one officer short of its complement. and the long delay in appointing a successor to Captain Thompson is much to be deprecated.

21. The following table shows the expenditure on the convict prisons during the past seven years :—

Daily Average Number of Prisoners.								Expenditure.						
1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.		1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.
								Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
416	410	415	426	527	616	556	Welikada ...	76072	82133	72121	77611	94698	106039	109862
405	411	358	368	403	390	380	Slave Island and Breakwater ...	64229	59895	57958	63616	68803	69348	61040
260	325	324	371	332	317	329	Mahara ...	34799	42770	56611	69932	65989	53415	55181
1,081	1,146	1,097	1,165	1,262	1,323	1,265	Total ...	175099	184798	186690	211159	229490	228802	226083

* Including two temporary sheds. † For males only.

PART III.—PROVINCIAL PRISONS.

22. This statement shows the available accommodation. daily average number of prisoners, and the sickness and death in each jail :—

	Accommodation Available.			Daily Average.				
	No. of Cells.	No. of Wards.	Licensed to hold.	Convicted.	Unconvicted.	Sick.	All Prisoners.	No. of Deaths.
Hulftsdorp	15	14	250	42	58	1	99	2
Negombo	22	16*	194	160	14	13	174	13
Kalutara	24	6*	135	88	13	3	101	5
Kégalla	6	2	22	14	7	—	21	—
Ratnapura	12	9	68	28	22	1	51	4
Avisáwélla	3	3	18	6	8	—	14	—
Kandy (old jail)	43	9	147	12	32	1	44	—
Bógambra	324	3	529	370	—	6	370	6
Nuwara Eliya	4	8	42	54	11	3	65	2
Mátalé	—	5	26	17	5	1	22	—
Galle	46	14*	305	171	32	6	203	4
Mátara	2	9	111	58	16	3	74	5
Tangalla	1	7	62	34	7	1	41	—
Hambantota	19	9	120	97	4	1	100	—
Ambalantota	—	1	24	13	—	—	13	—
Balapitiya	—	5	14	6	9	—	16	—
Kurunégala	9	11*	275	187	37	5	224	16
Puttalam	4	7*	93	76	1	10	77	12
Chilaw	24	3	44	27	11	1	38	—
Jaffna	92	13	408	271	18	5	290	3
Mannár	—	6	43	1	1	—	1	—
V.-Viláṇkulam	10	2	16	6	1	—	7	—
Batticaloa	45	4	70	70	10	1	80	2
Trincomalee	4	3	57	31	3	—	34	1
Anurádhapura	32	3*	127	108	11	2	119	4
Mihintalé	—	1	25	24	—	—	24	—
Badulla	12	9*	145	77	19	—	96	1
Total	753	182	3,370	2,048	350	64	2,398	80

23. There was no overcrowding during 1887. The jails at Nuwara Eliya, Batticaloa, and Balapitiya show a few men more than the jails should hold ; but the extra men were required for local work, and were short-sentenced men, who slept in the verandahs of the jail and in the Kachchéri and Court-house.

24. Each Superintendent of a provincial jail has furnished a short report as usual. These reports contain the usual recommendations, a few being for the better education of prisoners whilst in jail, some for rendering the diet less palatable, but many more for the provision of better paid and more capable prisons officers who would exact more rigorous work ; and with these last I am quite at one. The work is decidedly not hard enough at these provincial jails. It consists in public work in and around the jail, such as stone-breaking, road-making and mending, and cleansing, constructing, and repairing buildings and channels, and gathering salt, drawing water, sweeping public grounds, and cleansing public latrines—this in addition to all the work (including cooking) of their own jails, which are almost invariably models of cleanliness and good sanitation.

PART IV.—GENERAL REMARKS.

25. These remarks are much the same every year, and can be found with greater amplification in the reports of former years. They are always to the effect that the convicts are very numerous, that they are perhaps too pleasantly fed, and in the provincial jails not sufficiently worked, and that the small pittances allowed to the prison guards and even to many jailors are insufficient to get better men than the present men, who are often poor creatures incapable of properly controlling the prisoners or exacting rigorous work. These remarks are quite true, and every one knows that they are so, and a little progress is made every year in giving them effect. But the whole question is one of expense. By apprehending four out of five, or five out of six, of our criminals, and by having all available evidence carefully collected and pieced together, we should obtain many more convictions than at present, and by rigorous prison discipline we should render the consequences of conviction far graver than they now are, and we should certainly deter a larger percentage of criminals than we do at present. But to ensure the capture and conviction we want a body of able detectives, and to ensure the stricter jail discipline we want in many instances better jails and better jailors and guards. It is for the Government to decide whether they can afford to pay for these. And it is not alone a case of affording to pay for these; but can they afford to shut up within the prisons the great majority of their convicts, and pay out of the revenue for all the valuable public works which convicts have, for many years, been doing, and doing well ?

26. I would say here that there has of late been a somewhat unreflecting outcry about the luxury of the Ceylon convict. It is true that he may have pleasanter food than other convicts, though he cannot have cheaper, and that in the provincial jails he may often not have severe toil. But if his life is so luxurious, whence, I would ask, the crowd of piteous petitions for even a little remission of sentence, which I am daily sending from convicts to the Governor ? If they are so comfortable in prison, why are they and their relatives always besieging His Excellency with earnest appeals for release ? They do so, in fact, because in the great majority of cases they hate their jail life. They hate their loss of liberty ; they hate regular work, however easy it is ; they hate the chance of a flogging for breach of jail discipline ; and they miss their gambling and their drinking

* There are sheds in these jails affording additional accommodation.

and the society of their females. They hate to think that their old parents are unprotected and perhaps starving, and that their wives and children and any little property they may have are very much at the mercy of their debauched and unscrupulous neighbours. They hate, too—those of them of good birth, as so many of them are—to have to perform the domestic functions of a common jail for their fellow-prisoners, many of whom are men of low caste; especially do they hate the latrine duty, which falls to all alike.

27. I am less sanguine than I used to be about any very thorough repression within a moderate time of the undoubted prevalence of crime in Ceylon. I used to think that good detective police, well seconded by effective Police Courts and by a rigorous prison system, would soon reduce crime to the level of crime in India. Twenty-two years' experience of Ceylon, however, after ten years' experience of India, has begun to make me somewhat sceptical on this point. I fear it will take a generation or two, not only of repression but of humanising education to effect a very great change. Long comparative immunity from any punishment, except the cost of buying over a headman, has induced habits which are not readily got rid of. All the more, however, are we bound to do our best to effect an improvement.

28. With reference to appendices I. and II., I would say a few words. One is the report of Mr. Mooney, the late Acting Superintendent of the Convict Establishment; the other is the report of Dr. Attygalle, the doctor in charge of the Convict Establishment.

29. I do not concur in all Mr. Mooney's conclusions laid down in his report, though he is a very excellent practical officer. I remarked upon them in my letter to you, No. 268 of April 25 last, paragraph 22.

30. With reference to paragraphs 19 and 20 of Mr. Mooney's report on tables designed, I believe, by Mr. Elliott, I do not quite understand them, but inquiry will be made into the subject.

31. As regards the Medical report, Dr. Attygalle seems troubled at the remarks in my report for 1886, in which I attributed perhaps too much pampering of prisoners to the Medical Officers. What I had in view at the time was a case in which I found all the convicts of a large jail still locked up in their cells, in case they should suffer from the morning air, an hour after all honest people were out at their work.

G. W. R. CAMPBELL,
Inspector-General of Prisons.

APPENDIX I.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF THE CONVICT ESTABLISHMENT FOR 1887.

THE average number of prisoners in the jails of the Convict Establishment was slightly less than in the previous year, viz. :—

Daily average for 1886	...	...	1,321
Do. 1887	...	...	1,267
		Decrease ...	54

2. The expenditure compared with that of 1886 was as follows :—

			Rs.
Expenditure, 1886	...	...	228,799
Do. 1887	...	...	226,083
		Decrease ...	2,716

3. The earnings compared with 1886 show an increase, viz. :—

				Rs.
1887	...	...	...	145,857
1886	..	...	...	108,390
			Increase ...	37,467

4. The labour at the Węlikada and Mahara jails has been the same as in former years, with the exception that stone-breaking by the military prisoners was commenced at Węlikada in November; and this will be the form of hard labour for military prisoners in future.

5. The Slave Island and Breakwater prisoners working extramurally were employed under the Public Works Department in road-making, filling in the Fort canal, and making alterations in the Fort esplanade.

6. The nature of this work, necessarily bringing convicts into close connection with the outside public, is most objectionable. Although a saving is shown on an estimate by the employment of convict labour in public places, I am certain that when the undeterrent effect of such employment on the criminal calendar of the Island is carefully considered, it will be found that those public works have been executed in a manner really the most expensive to the general revenue.

PRISON DISCIPLINE.

7. The conduct of the prisoners was good—no assaults on officers during the year—which, considering the poor description of men employed as guards, and their tendency to traffic with prisoners or their friends, is remarkable. I have no doubt that this practice of trafficking is responsible for many of the assaults committed on officers.

8. A case of gross misconduct on the part of three officers took place at Slave Island in the latter part of the year. A prisoner employed as a sick orderly in Slave Island prison was removed from the prison by them about 8 o'clock at night, and taken to the house of an officer, but brought back in half an hour. They were caught on return by Mr. Jones, the jailor, at the prison gate. The officers were under the influence of liquor, and I am satisfied the offence was caused by their drunkenness and not through any collusion with friends of the prisoner. The officers were suspended by me, and in order to have them severely punished the case was sent for trial before the Police Magistrate. When brought into the Police Court it was found that that lame and ill-digested book known as the "Manual of Rules for the Management of Jails" had made no provision against such an offence, and the men were discharged by the court. They were, however, promptly dismissed from the Prison Service.

9. I would suggest that in any reform of the Prison Service, the first work taken in hand be the revision of the "Manual of Rules," and also that a man with practical knowledge be associated with the revisers, in order to guard against some of the palpable blunders obtaining in the present work.

SPECIAL GANG.

10. There were fifteen prisoners in the special gang on January 1. They were discharged from time to time according to conduct and the period served in the gang. The last prisoner was removed on September 16. From this date to December 31 the gang stalls were unoccupied.

CLASSIFICATION.

11. At Slave Island, Breakwater, and Mahara jails there is no classification beyond that between the second and third stages, all the prisoners in these jails being employed in association. In the Welikada jail the penal (first stage) prisoners are kept apart as far as practicable from other classes: juveniles from adults, military prisoners from others, European and Burghers from natives, and men of the special gang from all others. In the female jail known prostitutes are kept in separate cells apart from the other prisoners.

GENERAL CONDUCT.

12. The return of punishments shows a great reduction in number in the prisons of Welikada and Mahara, with a slight increase at Slave Island and Breakwater. Considering that the prisoners in the last-named prisons have been working in crowded thoroughfares for the entire year, it is not surprising that the punishments for prison offences show no decrease. From my taking charge as Acting Superintendent, I have found the reports for weeks confined to such offences as having tobacco and piking up cigar ends.

13. The return of punishments is compiled in a very imperfect form. I tried some years ago to introduce a better form, but, meeting no encouragement, took no further trouble.

JUVENILES.

14. There were 144 juvenile offenders committed during the year, of whom, so far as could be ascertained from prison records, 103 were first offenders, so that 41 previously convicted juveniles returned to jail in 1887. It is satisfactory, however, to note that juvenile crime appears to be undergoing a steady decrease; the commitals for the last three years being: 1885, 252; 1886, 203; 1887, 144.

DEATHS.

15. There were 29 deaths in the Convict Establishment during the year.

16. I forward the report of the Medical Officer of the Convict Establishment.

WATER-SUPPLY.

17. The Welikada jail and Borella hospital have been connected with the Labugama water-supply, and it is to be hoped that Slave Island and Breakwater prisons may be similarly connected, so that the present bad practice of sending prisoners to draw water from stands on the public streets can be discontinued.

ESCAPES.

18. There was one escape from Welikada and one from Mahara during the year. Both were promptly recaptured. One prisoner who had escaped from the Breakwater prison in 1883 was recaptured at Kalutara and returned to prison.

STATISTICS.

19. I desire to call attention to two of the returns in appendix III., as being prepared in a form which makes the information given wholly fallacious. Return D should show the number of individuals committed and the number of committals represented by them. A return of previous convictions cannot possibly be correct in the form given. There would be very little difficulty in getting this return prepared in a proper form, if one could only get leave to introduce and make it uniform throughout the Island.

20. Returns L, M, N, of unconvicted prisoners are utterly false and misleading. By the present practice, prisoners who have been first sent on remand to Hulftsdorp or committed for trial, and afterwards convicted and sent to Welikada, are returned from Hulftsdorp as unconvicted and from Welikada as convicted, and it is so all over the Island.

The returns for 1886 show 7,239 unconvicted. About one-third of this number would be nearer the truth.

It should be understood that no prisoner is to be included in this return who had afterwards been convicted in the same case. Anyone acquainted with Criminal Statistics would, on comparing the numbers convicted in Ceylon with the numbers unconvicted, naturally conclude either that cases had been recklessly instituted or that the Law Officers had been remiss in duty.

REGISTERS.

21. The form of registry of prisoners committed is about as bad and cumbersome as could well be devised, and by no means so good as that in use in the time of Mr. Duval and Mr. Green.

The present registers are bound into books of 200 leaves, each prisoner committed taking up a leaf. What with prisoners committed direct from court and received from other jails, about sixteen of these books are used every year in Welikada alone! The consequence is, that the office is filled with a multitude of uncodified, unindexed registers, from which it is as difficult to trace out the history of a criminal as to find the proverbial needle in the bundle of hay. Besides, the paper and binding are so bad that very few perfect registers remain after seven years.

The registers of 1867 are still perfect and good, while many of ten years later are falling to pieces. The form in use at home, with very slight alterations, would answer here admirably.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

22. Mr. Henry Lloyd, senior Assistant Superintendent, left on March 29 on six months' leave, the second Assistant Mr. M. Mooney taking up his duties. First Class Jailor Mr. John Gamble was transferred from Jaffna to Colombo to act as Assistant Superintendent, *vice* Mooney.

INCREASE TO STAFF.

23. During the year two jailors of the first class from the Irish Prison Service and one of the second class from the English Service joined the Convict Establishment. Mr. A. O. Clegg, who formerly held the important office of Deputy Governor in Richmond Prison, Dublin, was placed in charge of Welikada, and Mr. D. Duggan, late Principal Warder in Mountjoy Convict Depôt Prison, took charge of Slave Island and Breakwater. Mr. T. Germany, Chief Warder from Wandsworth Prison, England, was retained as Second Jailor at Welikada.

SOME COMPARATIVE STATISTICS.

24. I give below some returns of convictions and daily averages of the Irish and Ceylon prisons for the year 1886, and must say that on the usual inference drawn from Criminal Statistics, which show the daily average as very high in proportion to the number convicted, Ceylon appears in a very unfavourable light as regards serious crime. I deal with male criminals only, as female crime is so light in this Colony as to make a hardly appreciable difference in the general total or daily average. The numbers are—

	Ireland.		Ceylon, including Road Ordinance Defaulters.
Males actually sentenced	22,971	...	14,076
Daily average of convicted and unconvicted in Local and Convict Prisons	2,480	...	3,965

It will thus be seen that the daily average of prisoners in Ceylon prisons is out of all proportion to the number convicted, pointing to the greater severity of sentences and consequently to a prevalence of graver crime. The proper proportional average for Ceylon as compared with Ireland would, on the above numbers, be very little over 1,500, or slightly in excess of the numbers in the Convict Establishment.

There is another manner of accounting for the great difference in the averages quoted besides the usual one of serious crime prevailing, which is that Irish Judges, from the Courts of Assize to Courts of Petty Sessions, are so satisfied of the severity of prison discipline as to feel justified in awarding short sentences of imprisonment except in very serious cases.

This is worth attention, for if imprisonment can be made so irksome as to justify judges in sentencing to one and two months instead of six, daily averages with all attendant expenses will come down by the run. I therefore submit this view for careful consideration.

DEATH OF CAPTAIN THOMPSON.

25. To the unfeigned sorrow of myself and every officer of the Convict Establishment, Captain Thompson, our Superintendent, died in his house at Welikada, after a short illness, on August 16.

Captain Thompson possessed in a remarkable degree two characteristics essential to the holder of such important offices as Superintendent of the Convict Establishment and Deputy Inspector-General of Prisons—namely, a strong sense of justice and great personal dignity. No man could be more stern and decided in ordering duty, and no man serving under him required to be twice reminded of his order. But every one felt that the strict disciplinarian possessed a kindly, thoughtful heart, and that he was really anxious that all his report days should merit white gloves. Many a time has he expressed to me his sorrow at having to repeatedly punish some refractory prisoners, but he would say: "I must do it in justice to well-behaved men as well as in the interest of good discipline."

The Sinhalese have a very keen sense of justice, and I know, from the names given to some officers, an acute perception of character. I may be pardoned for telling the following story of what occurred in my presence, as illustrative of the intense respect engendered in the native mind by Captain Thompson. He had been trying a case, and believed that a prison constable had been either withholding or trying to evade telling the truth, and he disrated the constable. The next day the ex-constable asked to see the Superintendent, and pleaded for a re-hearing of his case, as he said he had been misunderstood. Captain Thompson granted a re-hearing, and, after a full and patient inquiry, was satisfied that he had made a mistake, and at once restored the forfeited rank. The prisoner thanked him and left, but returned from the door. "Sir," he said, "I am for discharge in a few weeks, and don't care about losing the badge, but I would be very sorry you thought I would tell lies to you." Such a feeling towards a superior does more for discipline and good order than would a dozen men armed with revolvers.

For Mrs. Thompson we all felt in her many recent troubles; but in this her crowning sorrow I can assure her of the deep sympathy of all who served under her late husband.

On September 1 His Excellency the Governor appointed me Acting Superintendent of the Convict Establishment and Deputy Inspector-General of Prisons. I am deeply sensible of, and grateful for, this high honour and mark of confidence. In this spirit I did my best to discharge all

the duties of the office in such a manner as to prove myself worthy of the trust, and hope my exertions have not been unsatisfactory.

26. I may also add that such recognition of men from the ranks of the Service does more to improve its tone and efficiency than an increase of salary, because a man of spirit feels that the highest position in his Department is for him a fair object of ambition, and that if he prove himself at all fit, no consideration of class will stand in his way. It is a new departure in the Prisons Department, about which I can scarcely write, but I and many others in the Service feel it and are very thankful.

I think it only just to add that I received great assistance from Mr. Herft, the Accountant, whose long experience and great intelligence were of much service to me. The late Superintendent frequently told me of Mr. Herft's good qualities, and from my late experience I can cordially endorse his good opinion.

GENERAL REMARKS.

On this my first opportunity of being heard on the state of the Prisons of Ceylon, I propose showing as concisely as possible what appear to me as the mistakes of our Prison Management, and to suggest some improvements to be taken as initiatory only to a proper system.

Broadly stated, there is neither a Prison Department nor a settled system of discipline in Ceylon.

Departmentally, the prisons are in a position analogous to the prisons in Ireland prior to 1878, when those establishments were managed by Local Boards of Superintendence, the expenditure being a part of the fiscal arrangements of the different counties. There were two Inspectors-General, responsible to Government for certain inspections and reports, but who had very little weight indeed in carrying out an uniform discipline. In fact, several Boards insisted on the prisoners not working on the holidays of the Roman Catholic Church, and maintained their order in spite of all opposition by the Inspectors-General.

Now, for "County" and "Board" substitute "Province" and "Government Agent," and we have something like what obtains in Ceylon.

The charge for the Prison Establishment is a portion of the expenditure of each Province, the Government Agent or his Assistant being the Superintendent. The Inspector-General makes certain inspections and reports, calls for and obtains returns, but for all disciplinary purposes his powers are almost nil. Indeed, it is pretty well known that an Agent told an Inspector-General not to interfere with him, that he would manage his prison as he thought right.

Further, it is a practice with Superintendents to return prisoners with anything like a bad prison character to the headquarters, although such prisoners were transferred by order of the Inspector-General, with the remark that such convicts should not have been sent, as they could not be managed there. I know of no more expressive commentary on our Prison System than that such a course should be attempted, or that pick and choice of prisoners should be thought possible.

Without at all questioning the ability or good intentions of the Agents, I would ask how it is possible for those gentlemen to give, in addition to their other onerous duties, the necessary time and attention essential to the proper discharge of their duties as prison officers. They are absent from the station for weeks at a time, and, even when there, hard work compels them to delegate their powers to the Deputy Fiscal. Thus we see an official not attached to the Prisons Department acting as the principal executive officer, inspecting books, visiting prisoners, ordering work, &c.

The Government Agent looks on the prison of a part of his Province, and cannot be expected from his position or knowledge to be very tolerant of what he may consider the new-fangled notions of a prison officer, to whose judgment he may not be inclined to submit; and I do not imagine any one will say an Inspector-General would be as rigid in enforcing obedience on a man of this class as if he were a departmental officer immediately subordinate to himself.

From this short account of the prisons of Ceylon, let me turn to the practice observed in dealing with prisoners, for by no stretch of language can it be called a system.

The system known in countries where dealing with criminals has been reduced to almost a science—viz., of convict and local prisons—has been here ignored or misunderstood, and a crude attempt to amalgamate the two tried.

The criminal sentenced to six months is found doing his penal stage beside one sentenced to twenty years, and even that penal stage is practically non-existent. The prisoner sentenced on Monday may be found on Wednesday drawing a cart on the public road, or one of a party carrying water to the quarters of some public officer.

The truth is, that anything like a steady uniform system of discipline, with all the deterrent effects which may be reasonably supposed to follow or result from its being strictly carried out, is sacrificed to an idea that money must be saved to the public by the employment of prison labour. Thus, we see a Municipality wanting a drain or lake cleaned, a Local Board wanting a new walk or deviation in a road, all indenting on the town prison for labour, and the Superintendent, with no decided rule to guide him, orders a number of prisoners for the work, or in his default an appeal to Government is made, and an order obtained for a supply of prisoners, no one caring to inquire whether the order causes the breaking up of a penal stage gang or renders discipline nugatory. At home, the prison rule is discipline and order first, work to follow. In Ceylon the practice is work first, discipline to follow as it can.

There cannot be any objection te the employment of prisoners on public works. It is right and proper that their labour should be utilised in causing a saving to general revenue, but this employment should be on important public works only, and should not be allowed to interfere with prison discipline as it now unquestionably does.

No convict should be drafted to any public work until after he has undergone at least six months of rigorously penal labour, as much as possible in separation and strict silence. I lay particular stress on *silence*, as I find it the form of punishment most dreaded by the native mind. My object is to give the convict such a lesson of prison life as may be to him a lasting remembrance and cause of dread.

In selecting a deterrent punishment, we must be guided as much by the feeling of dislike entertained to its form as by any consideration of its immediate severity; and I am confident that the ordinary native would be readier to take twenty-five lashes, and afterwards permitted to go

outside and work about the roads, than to be kept at a constant grind of intramural work for six months with strict silence.

There is certainly a good deal of irritation abroad respecting the increase of crime, and many suggestions have been made of universal lashing or semi-starvation of offenders as remedies for this deplorable state of things. I say, let us try a little prison discipline and judge of its effects before entertaining any of those thoughtlessly savage recommendations. After an experience of thirty years of prison service at home and in Ceylon, I am satisfied that prison dietary will never be a cause of increase or decrease in the number of criminals.

The Irish Prison Board allows a dietary much superior to that in force when it took charge of the prisons, and superior to what any small farmer or farm labourer in the country can get. Yet, what is the result? Although the Board took charge of the prisons in May, 1878, the new discipline was not in full force until 1880. The committals in that year reached 50,000. In 1884 the committals had fallen to 35,000, and such has been the steady decrease that up to the present year some twelve large prisons have been altogether closed up, or have been converted into bridewells, and the staff disbanded.

I know six counties, each having up to 1878 its separate prison with a governor and staff, now having ample accommodation for all offenders in two.

The reason is, that the Prison Board introduced a carefully thought out and uniform system of prison discipline, and has enforced its strict observance in all the prisons of the kingdom, with the results quoted; which is now presented in the hope that Ceylon may go and do likewise.

As I believe the past laxity of prison management in Ceylon is largely responsible for the present state of our criminal calendar, it behoves Government to take prompt action and make a radical change in the prisons, introducing something like uniformity of system in place of the present ill-digested guerrilla practice at present obtaining; and I trust to yet see at work in Ceylon a well-defined system of prison discipline strictly and sternly carried out, and to note its effects on our criminal statistics.

I would therefore appeal to Government to first organise a proper Prison Department, with a head or heads having direct control over the prisons of the Island, and that for disciplinary and inspection purposes prisons be grouped into districts and supervised by prison officers trained to the work; because, as my friend Mr. Lloyd has remarked, "it is very easy for a trained superior to instruct a subordinate, but very difficult for a trained subordinate to instruct an untrained superior."

The inspecting officers should be directly subordinate to the Inspector-General or Board of Directors. Their duties be to keep the prisons of their respective districts up to the mark, promptly reporting any failing off in the management. The practice of unexpected visiting to be insisted on. A system once settled, details which cannot be here entered on—otherwise a report necessarily short would be unduly extended—could be easily arranged. I content myself with sketching broad principles, on which a system of prison discipline beneficial to the Colony may be built up.

I have not hesitated to express my belief that our past prison management has been a great mistake. I should be glad to see, in place of a report showing what money had been saved to the Colony by the employment of prison labour, a statement that, owing to a different mode of dealing with criminals, several prisons had been closed up and a Police Magistrate's station abolished.

My opinions may not meet with universal acceptance, but I claim that they may be respected as the honest expressions of one feeling strongly on the subject.

Whatever disagreement there may be on the subject-matter of this report, I am certain all will agree with me in saying that a prison system, which will cause one criminal to be where two now are, will be a blessing to the Colony, and is urgently required.

MARCUS MOONEY,
Acting Superintendent of the Convict Establishment.

APPENDIX II.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF THE CONVICT ESTABLISHMENT FOR 1887

DURING the year 1887 the total number of sick prisoners treated at the Borella Convict Hospital was 2,028, of whom 28 remained under treatment from the preceding year, and the rest were new admissions. Of these latter, 1,013 were sent to hospital from Welikada, 234 from Slave Island, 131 from Breakwater, 565 from Mahara, and 57 from Hulftsdorp.

2. Of the prisoners admitted to hospital, 752 were penal stage prisoners, and the rest were second and third stage men. It will be seen from these figures that nearly 37 per cent. of the sick were contributed by the former (penal stage men); and whilst there has been very little sickness comparatively among those who had been long in jail, the prevalence of a greater amount of sickness among the recent convicts is no doubt due to the new mode of life to which they are suddenly subjected, accompanied with a diet in the case of many different to what they were accustomed to in their own homes.

3. Of the 2,028 patients, 1,990 were cured and discharged, 30 died, and 8 still remained under treatment at the close of the year.

4. The percentage of deaths to total treated was only 1·47, which was highly satisfactory, and will compare favourably with the death-rate that obtains among prisoners in any country or clime throughout the world; and the death-rate per thousand among whom the deaths occurred was 5·64, which is not a fourth of what obtains among the civil population in Ceylon, according to the Registrar-General's report for last year, and less than the death-rate among soldiers in Ceylon by nearly 50 per cent.

5. The chief diseases which prevailed among the prisoners were ague, diarrhœa, dysentery, and remittent fever, the first of which alone contributed no less than 49·26 of the total sick treated in hospital. These ague cases were almost entirely among prisoners who had been in Mahara at some time or other, and clearly due to unavoidable endemic malaria, which shows itself markedly at certain seasons of the year at that place, when not only prisoners but nearly all the villagers in the vicinity of the jail suffer from the effects of the same.

6. Dysentery and diarrhœa, contributed chiefly by new-comers, were due to causes already mentioned, and cases of remittent fever, like those of ague, were chiefly among prisoners who had some time or other worked at Mahara jail.

7. There were 14 cases of pneumonia treated in hospital, of whom 5 occurred within the first two months of the year and the other 9 in the remaining ten months. In the year preceding there occurred 32 cases, and this great decrease in the number of cases admitted to hospital I attribute in a great measure to the discontinuance of flannel, which I effected since I took charge of the jail duties in March last, as I found its injudicious and ignorant use by the prisoners did more harm than good to them.

8. There were 150 cases of sore-eyes, and these occurred chiefly among prisoners working at the Fort improvements, and was due to mechanical irritation caused by the fine particles of sand, to which the men were necessarily exposed by the nature of the work in which they were engaged. They all recovered without injury to the eyes in any single case.

9. A good deal has been said of late as regards the treatment accorded to prisoners by the Medical Officers in charge of the jails in respect of their diet and labour by the public outside, who might perhaps be excused on the ground of their ignorance of matters of which they could not be expected to have any practical acquaintance; but I am not a little surprised to find the Inspector-General of Prisons, who ought to have known better, joining in the same unreasonable cry, and making the following astounding statement in his Administration Report for last year :—

> I would add, that if the Medical Department had less to say to their diet and labour, the convicts would, whilst being treated with perfectly reasonable humanity, have both harder work and fewer indulgences. In order that the sick rate and death-rate may be kept as favourable as possible, a large proportion of the Medical Officers treat the criminals with an indulgent tenderness undreamt of by the criminals' decent fellow-villagers.

10. This is by no means a fair statement of the case, for the so-called indulgences given by the Medical Officers to the prisoners are no more than what are absolutely necessary to maintain them in ordinary health, and to save life in the case of those who are affected with disease and otherwise rendered physically unfit for actual hard labour. A great stock argument used by these detractors of the Medical Officers is, that the food which the prisoners get in Ceylon jails is much better than what most of them get in their own homes. No doubt there is some truth in this averment, but it must be borne in mind that these men in their own homes do not perform a quarter of the work exacted of them in the jails, and necessarily they require to be given an equally greater amount of food to enable them to go through the increased amount of work required of them. It is not possible to punish them, so to speak, through their bellies, and to subject them at the same time to hard labour, without endangering their lives, which would be both unlawful and inhuman; and therefore a remedy for the evil complained of must be sought for in some other way than by raising a senseless clamour against the Medical Officers, who are simply doing their duty towards men placed under their charge, and for the proper maintenance of whose health they are very properly held responsible by Government.

It is the opinion of the highest authorities on jail discipline in England now, that prisoners cannot be employed at hard labour without detriment to their health unless a diet adequate to such labour is given them at the same time; and in my opinion, what is really wanted to make prison life deterrent in Ceylon is not any interference with the present scale of diet, which is as low as can be made if the men are to be employed at hard labour, but a proper system of prison discipline, having for its chief object their entire separation from one another, and preclusion from access to their friends outside, so long as they are undergoing incarceration, combined with some really hard work such as stone-breaking.

JOHN ATTYGALLE, M.D.

Colombo, January 17, 1888.

APPENDIX III.

A.—Return showing the Daily Average of all Convicted Prisoners confined within the Jails of Ceylon during 1887.

JAILS.	In Penal Stage.	In Second Stage.	In Third Stage.	Road Ordinance Defaulters.	Simple Imprisonment.	Total.	OF THIS TOTAL: Females.	Juveniles.	In Convalescent Gang.	Sick.
Western Province.										
Welikada	195·45	297·12	61·73	·59	1·57	556·46	14·35	25·71	18 62	17·01
Slave Island ... } Breakwater ... }	98·42	253·87	28·17	—	—	380·46	—	—	14·52	5·15
Mahara	110·46	184·72	33 85	—	—	329·03	—	—	13·00	14·78
Convict Establishment...	404·33	735·71	123·75	·59	1·57	1,265·95	14·35	25·71	46·14	36 94
Hulftsdorp	·18	29·14	4·87	—	7·53	41·72	—	—	—	·20
Negombo	22·63	119 62	14·73	—	2·79	159·77	·16	—	8·80	13 03
Kalutara	29·57	45·12	12 59	·03	1·02	88·33	·16	·33	1·64	3·20
Kégalla	13·89	·20	—	—	·16	14·25	·10	·07	—	·37
Ratnapura	18·66	7·78	1·20	—	·85	28·49	·13	·04	2 50	·38
Avisáwélla	5·59	—	—	—	·28	5·87	·04	·02	—	·06
	494·85	937·57	157·14	·62	14·20	1,604·38	14 94	26 17	59·08	54·18
Central Province.										
Kandy Old Jail ...	2·25	5·61	3·65	—	·52	12·03	1·94	1·41	—	·02
Bógambra	203·16	141 74	17·23	1·53	6·70	370·36	—	—	4·39	6·11
Nuwara Eliya ...	41·14	12·19	48	·06	·29	54·16	·43	—	—	2 83
Mátalé	12·05	4·10	—	—	·52	16·67	·05	·05	—	·80
	258·60	163·64	21·36	1·59	8·03	453·22	2·42	1·46	4·39	9·76
Southern Province.										
Galle	76·97	63·58	11·74	16·72	1·81	170·82	3·01	1·06	1·55	5·09
Mátara	39·82	15·38	·35	—	2·62	58·17	·84	·03	1·07	2·73
Tapgalla	15·41	12 84	4·19	·53	·71	33·68	·05	1·13	·15	·60
Hambantota	9·02	72·43	14 73	·68	·01	96 87	—	—	—	·99
Ambalantota	·48	10·20	2·30	·08	·04	13 10	—	—	—	·40
Balapitiya	5·99	·19	—	·03	·09	6·30	·25	·21	—	—
	147·69	174·62	33·31	18·04	5·28	378·94	4·15	2·43	2·77	9·81
North-Western Province.										
Kurunégala	117·39	59 85	9·08	—	·46	186·78	·16	·19	1·12	4·41
Puttalam	10·82	54·45	10·73	—	·08	76·08	·08	—	2·10	9·72
Chilaw	13·23	6·67	3·97	3·01	·24	27·12	—	—	·87	·73
	141·44	120·97	23·78	3·01	·78	289·98	·24	·19	4·09	14·86
Northern Province.										
Jaffna	42·52	192·56	34·59	—	1·57	271·24	1·28	·68	—	4·52
Mannár	·74	—	—	—	·02	0 76	—	—	—	—
Vavuniya-Vilánkulam ...	3·35	1·85	—	·60	·23	6·03	—	—	—	·23
	46·61	194 41	34·59	·60	1·82	278 03	1 28	·68	—	4·75
Eastern Province.										
Batticaloa	20·58	37·38	11·96	·06	·29	70·27	·16	·57	·79	·77
Trincomalee	9·49	15·65	3 30	1·85	·09	30·38	—	·02	—	·26
	30·07	53·03	15·26	1·91	·38	100·65	·16	·59	·79	1·03
North-Central Province.										
Anurádhapura ...	15·18	72·17	19·34	1·05	·40	108·14	·30	—	—	2·62
Mihintalé	1·17	15·71	7·47	—	—	24·35	—	—	—	·13
	16·35	87·88	26 81	1·05	·40	132·49	·30	—	—	2·75
Province of Uva.										
Badulla	42·78	29·71	3·17	0·35	·87	76·88	·14	·09	—	·34
Total of all Jails ...	1,178·39	1,761·83	315·42	27·17	31·76	3,314·57	23 63	31·61	71·12	97·48

B.—Return of Prisoners showing the Number of Convicts in the Jails of Ceylon, and of their Disposal, during 1887.

Jails	Number of Prisoners on January 1, 1887.	Received during the year.				Total	Disposed of during the year.						Number of Convicted Prisoners in Jail on January 1, 1888.
		By Sentence	From other Prisons.	Recaptured			Discharged, Sentence expired.	Transferred to other Prisons.	Escaped.	Died.	Hanged.	Total.	
				Prior to January 1, 1887.	During the year.								
Western Province.													
Węlikada ...	657	1,478	3,190	—	1	5,326	1,298	3,372	1	28	12	4,711	615
Slave Island } Breakwater }	349	—	1,644	—	1	1,994	334	1,278	—	1	—	1,613	381
Malara ...	326	—	1,188	—	2	1,516	479	697	2	—	—	1,178	338
Convict Estab.	1,332	1,478	6,022	—	4	8,836	2,111	5,347	3	29	12	7,502	1,334
Hulftsdorp ...	40	249	84	—	—	373	288	48	—	1	—	337	36
Negombo ...	181	348	186	—	—	715	312	224	—	12	—	548	167
Kalutara ...	108	594	80	—	3	785	382	299	—	5	—	686	99
Kęgalla ...	31	408	—	—	5	444	221	199	4	—	—	424	20
Ratnapura ...	52	270	6	—	1	329	195	100	1	3	2	301	28
Avisáwélla ...	1	270	4	—	—	275	100	170	—	—	—	270	5
	1,745	3,617	6,382	—	13	11,757	3,609	6,387	8	50	14	10,068	1,689
Central Province.													
Kandy Old Jail	17	95	16	—	—	128	64	56	—	—	—	120	8
Bógambra ...	437	1,361	437	—	2	2,237	1,623	210	2	6	3	1,844	393
Nuwara Eliya ...	100	311	20	—	1	432	351	5	1	2	—	359	73
Mátalé ...	7	312	12	—	—	331	169	139	—	—	—	308	23
	561	2,079	485	—	3	3,128	2,207	410	3	8	3	2,631	497
Southern Province.													
Galle ...	198	810	160	—	2	1,170	888	118	3	2	4	1,015	155
Mátara ...	51	547	27	—	—	625	474	86	—	5	1	566	59
Tapgalla ...	43	144	8	—	—	195	154	19	—	—	—	173	22
Hambantota ...	122	15	223	—	—	360	78	183	—	—	—	261	99
Ambalantota ...	4	1	134	—	—	139	22	116	1	—	—	139	—
Balapitiya ...	8	169	5	—	1	183	83	94	—	—	—	177	6
	426	1,686	557	—	3	2,672	1,699	616	4	7	5	2,331	341
N.-Western Province.													
Kurunégala ...	166	1,156	37	—	8	1,367	1,124	47	7	10	1	1,189	178
Puttalam ...	97	55	80	—	4	236	126	18	7	11	—	162	74
Chilaw ...	26	177	5	—	1	209	151	36	1	—	—	188	21
	289	1,388	122	—	13	1,812	1,401	101	15	21	1	1,539	273
Northern Province.													
Jaffna ...	327	265	13	—	—	605	311	71	—	3	—	385	220
Mannár ...	5	12	—	—	—	17	8	9	—	—	—	17	—
V.-Viláykulam ...	6	34	—	—	—	40	36	1	—	—	—	37	3
	338	311	13	—	—	662	355	81	—	3	—	439	223
Eastern Province.													
Batticaloa ...	74	186	15	—	—	275	166	64	—	2	—	232	43
Trincomalee ...	24	74	51	—	—	149	81	19	—	1	—	101	48
	98	260	66	—	—	424	247	83		3	—	333	91
N.-Central Province.													
Anurádhapura ...	87	111	122	—	1	321	178	47	1	4	—	230	91
Mihintalé ...	19	—	43	—	1	63	20	43	—	—	—	63	—
	106	111	165	—	2	384	198	90	1	4	—	293	91
Province of Uva.													
Badulla ...	84	358	—	—	4	446	333	39	4	1	3	380	66
Total of all Jails	3,647	9,810	7,790	—	38	21,285	10,049	7,807	35	97	26	18,014	3,271

C.—Return showing the Terms of Sentences of Prisoners received into the Jails of Ceylon during 1887.

Jails.	Road Ordinance Defaulters.			Others.									
	Convicted under Ordinance No. 10 of 1861.	Convicted under Ordinance No. 31 of 1884.	Total.	Sentence not exceeding two weeks.	Not exceeding one month.	Not exceeding three months.	Not exceeding six months.	Not exceeding one year.	Not exceeding five years.	Exceeding five years.	Sentence to be hanged.	Total.	Grand Total.
Western Province.													
Węlikaḍa ...	4	54	58	499	259	220	259	57	74	46	6	1,420	1,478
Slave Island } Breakwater }	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mahara ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Convict Estab.	4	54	58	499	259	220	259	57	74	46	6	1,420	1,478
Hulftsdorp ...	—	8	8	213	16	12	—	—	—	—	—	241	249
Negombo ...	—	117	117	44	50	42	31	12	52	—	—	231	348
Kalutara ...	2	136	138	111	39	86	111	31	66	11	1	456	594
Kęgalla ...	—	14	14	143	39	64	99	33	16	—	—	394	408
Ratnapura ...	—	70	70	35	43	24	40	30	9	18	1	200	270
Avisáwélla ...	—	—	—	64	39	50	94	23	—	—	—	270	270
	6	399	405	1,109	485	498	634	186	217	75	8	3,212	3,617
Central Province.													
Kandy Old Jail...	—	—	—	42	24	22	7	—	—	—	—	95	95
Bógambra ...	131	367	498	231	115	216	187	37	44	28	5	863	1,361
Nuwara Eliya ...	5	107	112	37	39	39	80	4	—	—	—	199	311
Mátalé ...	—	70	70	99	26	76	35	6	—	—	—	242	312
	136	544	680	409	204	353	309	47	44	28	5	1,399	2,079
Southern Province.													
Galle ...	213	194	407	137	58	83	88	14	14	5	4	403	810
Mátara ...	—	171	171	197	46	34	63	17	8	10	1	376	547
Taŋgalla ...	6	—	6	24	20	34	44	11	1	3	1	138	144
Hambantoṭa ...	10	—	10	—	2	2	1	—	—	—	—	5	15
Ambalantoṭa ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Balapiṭiya ...	—	—	—	31	49	56	33	—	—	—	—	169	169
	229	365	594	390	175	209	229	42	23	18	6	1,092	1,686
N.-Western Province.													
Kurunęgala ...	—	777	777	94	42	76	79	43	27	17	1	379	1,156
Puttalam ...	—	11	11	2	28	6	8	—	—	—	—	44	55
Chilaw ...	—	39	39	13	60	31	27	4	3	—	—	138	177
	—	827	827	109	130	113	114	47	30	17	1	561	1,388
Northern Province.													
Jaffna ...	—	—	—	55	80	56	48	10	12	2	2	265	265
Mannár ...	—	—	—	—	3	5	3	1	—	—	—	12	12
V.-Viláŋkulam...	9	—	9	3	11	5	5	1	—	—	—	25	34
	9	—	9	58	94	66	56	12	12	2	2	302	311
Eastern Province.													
Batticaloa ...	—	12	12	52	7	24	59	12	17	3	—	174	186
Trincomalee ...	25	—	25	25	4	6	4	5	1	4	—	49	74
	25	12	37	77	11	30	63	17	18	7	—	223	260
N.-Central Province.													
Anurádhapura...	—	13	13	44	7	7	20	10	10	—	—	98	111
Mihintalé ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	—	13	13	44	7	7	20	10	10	—	—	98	111
Province of Uva.													
Badulla ...	28	60	88	39	44	95	61	12	5	11	3	270	358
Total of all Jails	**433**	**2,220**	**2,653**	**2,235**	**1,150**	**1,371**	**1,486**	**373**	**359**	**158**	**25**	**7,157**	**9,810**

D.—Return showing the Former Convictions, as far as can be ascertained, of Prisoners received into the Jails of Ceylon during 1887.

JAILS.	ROAD ORDINANCE DEFAULTERS.						OTHERS.						Grand Total.
	Not previously convicted.	Convicted once before.	Convicted twice before.	Convicted three times before.	Convicted more than three times.	Total.	Not previously convicted.	Convicted once before.	Convicted twice before.	Convicted three times before.	Convicted more than three times.	Total.	
Western Province.													
Węlikaḍa ...	58	—	—	—	—	58	977	210	111	42	80	1420	1478
Slave Island Breakwater	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mahara ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Convict Estab.	58	—	—	—	—	58	977	210	111	42	80	1420	1,478
Hulftsdorp ...	8	—	—	—	—	8	237	1	2	1	—	241	249
Negombo ...	117	—	—	—	—	117	133	88	8	—	2	231	348
Kalutara ...	136	—	2	—	—	138	403	36	7	10	—	456	594
Kęgalla ...	14	—	—	—	—	14	249	99	33	10	3	394	408
Ratnapura ...	70	—	—	—	—	70	199	1	—	—	—	200	270
Avisáwęlla ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	232	28	6	4	—	270	270
	403	—	2	—	—	405	2,430	463	167	67	85	3,212	3,617
Central Province.													
Kandy Old Jail..	—	—	—	—	—	—	73	10	4	1	7	95	95
Bógambra ...	498	—	—	—	—	498	600	177	50	13	23	863	1,361
Nuwara Eliya ...	112	—	—	—	—	112	156	35	7	—	1	199	311
Mátalé ...	70	—	—	—	—	70	179	37	11	11	4	242	312
	680	—	—	—	—	680	1,008	259	72	25	35	1,399	2,079
Southern Province.													
Galle ...	363	35	8	1	—	407	289	68	21	9	16	403	810
Mátara ...	171	—	—	—	—	171	247	86	35	5	3	376	547
Taṇgalla ...	6	—	—	—	—	6	123	14	1	—	—	138	144
Hambantoṭa ...	10	—	—	—	—	10	3	—	2	—	—	5	15
Ambalantoṭa ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
Balapiṭiya ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	132	19	13	5	—	169	169
	550	35	8	1	—	594	795	187	72	19	19	1,092	1,686
N.-Western Province.													
Kurunęgala ...	777	—	—	—	—	777	100	213	46	11	9	379	1,156
Puttalam ...	11	—	—	—	—	11	36	7	1	—	—	44	55
Chilaw ...	38	—	1	—	—	39	112	20	4	2	—	138	177
	826	—	1	—	—	827	248	240	51	13	9	561	1,388
Northern Province.													
Jaffna ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	193	45	18	2	7	265	265
Mannár ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	1	—	—	—	12	12
V.-Viláṇkulam...	6	3	—	—	—	9	24	—	1	—	—	25	34
	6	3	—	—	—	9	228	46	19	2	7	302	311
Eastern Province.													
Batticaloa ...	12	—	—	—	—	12	133	30	8	—	3	174	186
Trincomalee ...	16	6	3	—	—	25	36	9	3	1	—	49	74
	28	6	3	—	—	37	169	39	11	1	3	223	260
N.-Central Province.													
Anurádhapura...	8	2	2	1	—	13	83	13	2	—	—	98	111
Mihintalé ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	8	2	2	1	—	13	83	13	2	—	—	98	111
Province of Uva.													
Badulla ...	88	—	—	—	—	88	197	58	9	5	1	270	358
Total of all Jails	2,589	46	16	2	—	2,653	5,158	1,305	403	132	159	7,157	9,810

E.—Return showing the Daily Average of all Unconvicted Prisoners confined within the Jails of Ceylon during 1887.

JAILS.	Crown Debtors.	Civil Debtors.	Witnesses.	Further Examination.	Committed for Trial.	Awaiting Sentence and pending Appeal.	Accused persons arrested on Warrants.	Lunatics.	Total.	OF THIS TOTAL: Females.	Juveniles.	Sick.
Western Province.												
Welikada ...	—	—	—	·39	·75	·01	·01	—	1·16	1·16	—	—
Slave Island Breakwater	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mahara ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Convict Establishment	—	—	—	·39	·75	·01	·01	—	1·16	1·16	—	—
Hulftsdorp ...	—	2·34	·80	26·67	25·79	2·06	·13	—	57·79	—	—	·74
Negombo ...	—	·22	—	10·55	2 05	·59	·02	1 03	14·46	·49	—	·06
Kalutara ..	—	·08	·01	5·58	5·21	1·45	·03	·25	12·61	·11	·17	·05
Kégalla ...	—	·05	—	5·24	1 19	·13	—	·28	6 89	·11	·07	·02
Ratnapura ...	—	·04	—	15·51	5·91	·50	·02	·29	22·27	·11	·05	·41
Avisáwélla ...	—	—	—	7·72	·13	·08	·01	·01	7·95	·11	·04	—
	—	2·73	·81	71·66	41·03	4·82	·22	1·86	123·13	2 09	·33	1·28
Central Province.												
Kandy Old Jail ...	—	·94	·03	17·36	11·32	1·73	·18	·65	32·21	·88	·36	·72
Bógambra ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nuwara Eliya ..	—	—	—	10·75	·30	—	—	—	11·05	·63	01	—
Mátalé ...	—	—	—	4·71	·31	·01	—	—	5·03	·06	·01	·19
	—	·94	·03	32·82	11 93	1 74	·18	·65	48 29	1·57	·38	·91
Southern Province.												
Galle ...	1·57	2·11	·39	17·79	9·57	·59	·11	—	32·13	·61	·28	·64
Mátara ...	—	—	·20	8·71	6·83	·28	·02	·12	16·16	46	·07	·01
Tangalla ...	—	—	—	2·91	1·92	·81	—	1·25	6 89	·13	·01	·01
Hambantota ...	—	—	—	3·21	·23	—	—	—	3 44	—	—	·12
Ambalantota ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Balapitiya ...	—	—	·02	6·66	·30	·06	2·18	·12	9·34	·46	·07	—
	1·57	2·11	·61	39·28	18 85	1·74	2·31	1·49	67·96	1·66	·43	·78
North-Western Province.												
Kurunégala ...	—	·06	·19	18·90	17·29	·07	·02	·36	36·89	1·33	·18	·86
Puttalam ...	—	—	—	·88	·45	—	—	—	1 33	—	—	·06
Chilaw ...	—	—	—	7·79	2·49	·01	·01	·17	10·47	—	—	·07
	—	·06	·19	27·57	20·23	·08	·03	·53	48·69	1 33	·18	·99
Northern Province.												
Jaffna ...	·08	·11	·24	10·28	7·42	·04	·16	—	18·33	·40	—	·04
Mannár ...	—	—	—	·24	·05	·02	—	·02	·33	·08	—	—
Vavuniya-Vilángkulam...	—	·03	—	·82	·29	03	·03	·03	1·23	·03	—	—
	·08	·14	·24	11·34	7·76	·09	·19	·05	19 89	·51	—	·04
Eastern Province.												
Batticaloa ...	—	·77	·49	4·02	4·61	·21	·04	—	10·14	·63	·05	—
Trincomalee ...	—	—	—	1 33	·65	·45	·18	·68	3·29	·36	—	—
	—	·77	·49	5·35	5·26	·66	·22	·68	13·43	·99	·05	—
North-Central Province.												
Anurádhapura ...	—	—	—	6·21	3·04	1·19	·14	·09	10·67	·02	·02	—
Mihintalé ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	—	—	—	6·21	3·04	1·19	·14	·09	10·67	·02	·02	—
Province of Uva.												
Badulla ...	—	·87	—	12·14	5·19	·32	·02	·56	19 10	·62	·18	·02
Total of all Jails ...	1·65	7·62	2·37	206·37	113·29	10·64	3·31	5·91	351·16	8 79	1·57	4·02

F.—Return showing the Daily Average, Admissions, and Deaths of all Prisoners within the Jails of Ceylon during 1887.

JAILS.	DAILY AVERAGE.		Total.	ADMISSIONS.		DEATHS.		Cubic space per Prisoner.
	Convicted.	Unconvicted.		Convicted.	Unconvicted.	Convicted.	Unconvicted.	
Western Province.								ft.
Welikada	556·46	1·16	557·62	1,478	23	28	—	672·76
Slave Island ... } Breakwater ... }	380·46	—	380·46	—	—	1	—	1021·45
Mahara	329·03	—	329·03	—	—	—	—	697·64
Convict Establishment...	1265·95	1·16	1267·11	1,478	23	29	—	—
Hulftsdorp	41·72	57·79	99·51	249	1,349	1	1	1082
Negombo	159·77	14·46	174·23	348	481	12	1	872·83
Kalutara	88·33	12·61	100·94	594	482	5	—	704
Kégalla	14·25	6·89	21·14	408	268	—	—	588
Ratnapura ...	28·49	22·27	50·76	270	361	3	1	935
Avisáwélla	5·87	7·95	13·82	270	257	—	—	817·43
	1604·38	123 13	1727 51	3,617	3,221	50	3	—
Central Province.								
Kandy Old Jail... ...	12·03	32·21	44·24	95	625	—	—	2121
Bógambra	370·36	—	370·36	1,361	—	6	—	967
Nuwara Eliya	54·16	11·05	65·21	311	205	2	—	419
Mátalé	16·67	5·03	21 70	312	210	—	—	555
	453·22	48·29	501·51	2,079	1,040	8	—	—
Southern Province.								
Galle	170·82	32·13	202·95	810	631	2	2	635·26
Mátara	58·17	16·16	74·33	547	392	5	—	780·25
Tangalla	33·68	6·89	40·57	144	139	—	—	975
Hambantota	96·87	3 44	100·31	15	16	—	—	655
Ambalantota	13 10	—	13 10	1	—	—	—	1343
Balapitiya	6·30	9·34	15·64	169	619	—	—	535·74
	378·94	67·96	446·90	1,686	1,797	7	2	—
North-Western Province.								
Kurunégala	186·78	36·89	223·67	1,156	471	10	6	664
Puttalam	76·08	1·33	77·41	55	31	11	1	619
Chilaw	27·12	10·47	37·59	177	134	—	—	743
	289·98	48·69	338·67	1,388	636	21	7	—
Northern Province.								
Jaffna	271·24	18·33	289·57	265	242	3	—	796·82
Mannár	·76	·33	1 09	12	21	—	—	20758·54
Vavuniya-Vilánkulam ...	6·03	1·23	7·26	34	28	—	—	800
	278 03	19·89	297·92	311	291	3	—	—
Eastern Province.								
Batticaloa	70·27	10·14	80·41	186	154	2	—	572
Trincomalee	30·38	3·29	33·67	74	87	1	—	945·35
	100·65	13·43	114·08	260	241	3	—	—
North-Central Province.								
Anurádhapura	108·14	10·67	118·81	111	149	4	—	683·83
Mihintalé	24·35	—	24·35	—	—	—	—	554·41
	132·49	10·67	143·16	111	149	4	—	—
Province of Uva.								
Badulla	76·88	19·10	95·98	358	340	1	—	420
Total of all Jails ...	3314·57	351·16	3665·73	9,810	7,715	97	12	—

G.—Return of Prisoners who have Escaped from Ceylon Prisons since December 31, 1886, and were still at large on December 31, 1887.

JAILS.	Number of Escaped Prisoners at large on December 31, 1886.		Escaped during the year 1887.		Recaptured during the year 1887.		Still at large on December, 31, 1887.	
	Convicted.	Unconvicted.	Convicted.	Unconvicted.	Convicted.	Unconvicted.	Convicted.	Unconvicted.
Western Province.								
Welikada	4	—	1	—	1	—	4	—
Slave Island ... / Breakwater ...	5	—	—	—	1	—	4	—
Mahara	2	—	2	—	2	—	2	—
Convict Establishment...	11	—	3	—	4	—	10	—
Hulftsdorp	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Negombo	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kalutara	3	1	—	—	2	1	1	—
Kégalla	2	—	4	—	5	—	1	—
Ratnapura	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	1
Avisáwélla	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
	17	3	8		12	1	13	2
Central Province.								
Kandy Old Jail... ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Bógambra	9	—	2	—	3	—	8	—
Nuwara Eliya ...	6	1	1	—	1	—	6	1
Mátalé	2	4	—	—	—	—	2	4
	17	6	3	—	4	—	16	6
Southern Province.								
Galle	2	1	3	—	2	—	3	1
Mátara	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Taggalla .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hambantota	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Ambalantota	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	
Balapitiya	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	1
	6	2	4	—	3	—	7	2
North-Western Province.								
Kurunégala	3	1	7	1	8	1	2	1
Puttalam	2	—	7	—	4	—	5	—
Chilaw	2	3	1	—	1	1	2	2
	7	4	15	1	13	2	9	3
Northern Province.								
Jaffna	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mannár	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Vavuniya-Világkulam ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Eastern Province.								
Batticaloa	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Trincomalee	1	—	1	—	1	—	1	—
	3	—	1	—	1	—	3	—
North-Central Province.								
Anurádhapura	1	2	1	—	1	—	1	2
Mihintalé	2	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
	3	2	1	—	2	—	2	2
Province of Uva.								
Badulla	4	1	4	—	4	—	4	1
Total of all Jails ...	57	19	36	1	39	3	54	17

H.—Return showing the Number of Punishments inflicted on Prisoners for breaches of Prison Rules within the Jails of Ceylon during 1887.

JAILS.	By Superintendent.									By Prison Visitors.				By Court.			
	Reduction to Penal Stage.	Forfeiture of Marks.	Lashes with cat, not exceeding twelve.	Strokes with rattan.	Penal diet—one to seven days.	Disrated from constable's office.	Solitary confinement—one to seven days.	Otherwise.	Total.	Solitary confinement.	Lashes and strokes.	Additional imprisonment.	Total.	Additional imprisonment.	Strokes.	Total.	Grand Total.
Western Province.																	
Welikada ...	78	135	1	37	227	11	3	2	494	—	2	2	4	—	—	—	498
Slave Island / Breakwater	75	96	1	53	205	—	—	3	433	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	433
Mahara ...	133	30	1	42	41	2	—	—	249	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	249
Convict Establishment...	286	261	3	132	473	13	3	5	1176	—	2	2	4	—	—	—	1180
Hulftsdorp ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	20	—	21	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	21
Negombo ...	2	1	—	4	13	—	—	—	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	20
Kalutara ...	3	2	—	3	—	—	—	6	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14
Kégalla ...	—	—	2	3	5	—	—	5	15	—	—	—	—	—	10	10	25
Ratnapura ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Avisáwélla ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	291	264	6	142	491	14	23	16	1247	—	2	2	4	—	10	10	1261
Central Province.																	
Kandy Old Jail ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bógambra ...	—	—	1	3	167	1	—	8	180	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	180
Nuwara Eliya ...	—	—	—	22	9	—	—	—	31	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	32
Mátalé ...	—	—	—	13	21	—	—	—	34	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	36
	—	—	1	38	197	1	—	8	245	—	3	—	3	—	—	—	248
Southern Province.																	
Galle ...	3	25	—	4	20	—	—	—	52	—	—	6	6	—	—	—	58
Mátara ...	—	—	—	1	8	—	3	—	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12
Tangalla ...	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
Hambantota ...	1	7	—	8	18	1	3	—	38	—	—	—	—		—	—	38
Ambalantota ...	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Balapitiya ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	4	33	—	14	55	1	6	—	113	—	—	6	6	—	—	—	119
North-Western Province.																	
Kurunégala ...	4	13	1	1	30	1	4	—	54	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	54
Puttalam ...	4	11	1	6	—	—	—	—	22	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	22
Chilaw ...	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
	8	24	2	7	38	1	4	—	84	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	84
Northern Province.																	
Jaffna ...	3	4	—	3	1	1	—	2	14	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	15
Mannár ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Vavuniya-Vilángkulam ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
	3	4	—	4	1	1	—	2	15	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	16
Eastern Province.																	
Batticaloa ...	—	1	—	8	35	1	6	—	51	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	51
Trincomalee ...	—	1	1	8	15	—	2	—	27	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	27
	—	2	1	16	50	1	8	—	78	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	78
North-Central Province.																	
Anurádhapura ...	—	3	—	2	13	1	—	—	19	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	20
Mihintalé ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
	—	3	—	3	13	1	—	—	20	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	21
Province of Uva.																	
Badulla ...	—	1	2	7	47	—	—	8	65	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	67
Total of all Jails...	306	331	12	231	892	20	41	34	1867	—	5	8	13	4	10	14	1894

I.—Return showing the Number of Punishments inflicted for Offences committed by Officers of the Jails of Ceylon during 1887.

JAILS.	By Court.			By Prison Authorities.			Grand Total.
	By Imprisonment.	By Fine or otherwise.	Total.	By Dismissal.	By Fine or otherwise.	Total.	
Western Province.							
Welikada	—	—	—	12	109	121	121
Slave Island Breakwater	—	—	—	10	184	194	194
Mahara	—	—	—	2	16	18	18
Convict Establishment...	—	—	—	24	309	333	333
Hulftsdorp ...	—	—	—	—	10	10	10
Negombo	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kalutara	—	—	—	—	4	4	4
Kegalla	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ratnapura ...	—	—	—	—	3	3	3
Avisáwélla ...	—	—	—	—	1	1	1
	—	—	—	24	327	351	351
Central Province.							
Kandy Old Jail ...	—	—	—	—	1	1	1
Bógambra... ...	—	—	—	9	49	58	58
Nuwara Eliya ...	—	1	1	—	7	7	8
Mátalé	—	—	—	1	2	3	3
	—	1	1	10	59	69	70
Southern Province.							
Galle	—	—	—	6	24	30	30
Mátara	—	—	—	1	10	11	11
Tangalla	—	—	—	—	1	1	1
Hambantota ...	—	—	—	1	7	8	8
Ambalantota ...	—	—	—	—	1	1	1
Balapitiya... ...	—	—	—	—	1	1	1
	—	—	—	8	44	52	52
North-Western Province.							
Kurunégala ...	1	—	1	1	12	13	14
Puttalam	—	—	—	4	13	17	17
Chilaw	—	—	—	—	1	1	1
	1	—	1	5	26	31	32
Northern Province.							
Jaffna	—	—	—	—	1	1	1
Mannár	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Vavuniya-Vilángkulam ...	—	—	—	—	1	1	1
	—	—	—	—	2	2	2
Eastern Province.							
Batticaloa... ...	—	—	—	—	14	14	14
Trincomalee ...	—	—	—	—	1	1	1
	—	—	—	—	15	15	15
North-Central Province.							
Anurádhapura ...	—	—	—	3	8	11	11
Mihintalé	—	—	—	1	2	3	3
	—	—	—	4	10	14	14
Province of Uva.							
Badulla	—	—	—	1	10	11	11
Total of all Jails...	1	1	2	52	493	545	547

K.—Return of Prisoners of all Classes treated in the various Jail Hospitals of Ceylon during 1887.

JAILS	Remained on December 31, 1886.	Admitted during the year 1887.	Discharged in 1887.	Hanged.	Died from Disease.	Remaining on December 31, 1887.	Average Daily Strength of all Prisoners.	Average Daily Strength of all Sick.	Percentage of Sick to Strength.	Percentage of Death to Strength.
Western Province.										
Welikada ...	13	2,414	2,393	12	28	6	557·62	17·01	30·50	5·02
Slave Island / Breakwater	11	913	922	—	1	1	380·46	5·15	1·35	·26
Mahara ...	3	821	823	—	—	1	329·03	14·78	4·49	—
Convict Estab...	27	4,148	4,138	12	29	8	1267·11	36·94	—	—
Hulftsdorp ...	1	44	43	—	2	1	99·51	·94	·94	2·00
Negombo ...	24	92	98	—	13	6	174·23	13·09	7·51	7·46
Kalutara ...	9	54	56	—	5	2	100·94	3·25	3·21	4·95
Kégalla ...	2	66	68	—	—	—	21·14	·39	1·84	—
Ratnapura ...	2	13	10	2	4	—	50 76	·79	1·55	7·87
Avisáwélla ...	—	2	2	—	—	—	13·82	·06	·43	—
	65	4,419	4,415	14	53	17	1727·51	55·46	—	—
Central Province.										
Kandy Old Jail	1	26	25	—	—	2	44·24	·74	1·67	—
Bógambra ...	6	224	216	3	6	5	370·36	6·11	1·64	1·62
Nuwara Eliya...	1	114	110	—	2	3	65·21	2·83	4·33	3·06
Matalé ...	1	47	48	—	—	—	21·70	·99	4·56	—
	9	411	399	3	8	10	501·51	10·67	—	—
Southern Province.										
Galle ...	1	305	297	4	4	3	202·95	5·73	2·82	1·97
Mátara ...	2	78	69	1	5	5	74·33	2·74	3·68	6·72
Taygalla ...	1	13	13	—	—	1	40·57	·61	1·50	—
Hambantota ...	—	46	43	—	—	3	100 31	1·11	1·10	—
Ambalantota ...	—	20	20	—	—	—	13·10	·40	3·05	—
Balapitiya ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	15·64	—	—	—
	4	462	442	5	9	12	446·90	10·59	—	—
N.-Western Province										
Kurunégala ...	5	228	215	1	16	7	223·67	5·27	2·35	7·15
Puttalam ...	9	391	379	—	12	10	77·41	9·78	12·63	15·50
Chilaw ...	2	27	28	—	—	1	37·59	·80	2·12	—
	16	646	622	1	28	18	338·67	15·85	—	—
Northern Province.										
Jaffna ...	8	76	75	—	3	6	289·57	4·56	1·57	1·03
Mannár ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·09	—	—	—
V.-Vilaykulam	—	1	1	—	—	—	7·26	·23	3·16	—
	8	77	76	—	3	6	297·92	4·79	—	—
Eastern Province.										
Batticaloa ...	3	19	20	—	2	—	80·41	·77	·95	2·48
Trincomalee ...	—	10	9	—	1	—	33·67	·26	·77	2·97
	3	29	29	—	3	—	114·08	1·03	—	—
N.-Central Province.										
Anurádhapura	2	162	152	—	4	8	118·81	2·62	2·20	3·36
Mihintalé ...	—	6	6	—	—	—	24·35	·13	·53	—
	2	168	158	—	4	8	143·16	2·75	—	—
Province of Uva.										
Badulla ...	—	14	13	3	1	—	95·98	·36	·37	1·04
Total of all Jails	**107**	**6,226**	**6,154**	**26**	**109**	**71**	**3665·73**	**101·50**	—	—

L.—Return showing the Religions of all Prisoners admitted into the Jails of Ceylon during 1887.

JAILS.	CONVICTED.							UNCONVICTED.						
	Protestants.	Roman Catholics.	Buddhists.	Hindus.	Muhammadans.	Others.	Total.	Protestants.	Roman Catholics.	Buddhists.	Hindus.	Muhammadans.	Others.	Total.
Western Province.														
Welikada ...	66	210	899	147	154	2	1,478	—	5	14	3	1	—	23
Slave Island } Breakwater }	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mahara ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Convict Estab	66	210	899	147	154	2	1,478	—	5	14	3	1	—	23
Hulftsdorp ...	6	30	132	55	24	2	249	24	136	941	133	115	—	1,349
Negombo ...	15	144	168	18	3	—	348	16	153	286	23	3	—	481
Kalutara ...	5	30	507	33	19	—	594	2	20	418	30	12	—	482
Kégalla ...	—	6	388	6	8	—	408	—	1	256	3	8	—	268
Ratnapura ...	—	3	253	12	2	—	270	1	20	293	42	5	—	361
Avisáwélla ...	1	16	220	—	7	26	270	—	23	206	—	10	18	257
	93	439	2,567	271	217	30	3,617	43	358	2,414	234	154	18	3,221
Central Province.														
Kandy Old Jail ...	—	4	66	8	17	—	95	8	25	387	128	76	1	625
Bógambra ...	5	48	1,021	170	117	—	1,361	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nuwara Eliya ...	1	11	243	47	9	—	311	4	4	154	36	7	—	205
Mátalé ...	—	2	254	38	17	1	312	—	—	170	30	10	—	210
	6	65	1,584	263	160	1	2 079	12	29	711	194	93	1	1,040
Southern Province.														
Galle ...	2	2	773	3	30	—	810	2	—	603	6	20	—	631
Mátara ...	—	—	536	3	8	—	547	—	—	387	3	2	—	392
Tangalla ...	—	—	143	1	—	—	144	—	—	136	2	1	—	139
Hambantota ...	—	—	11	1	3	—	15	—	—	10	2	4	—	16
Ambalantota ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Balapitiya ...	—	—	162	3	—	4	169	—	—	609	2	4	4	619
	2	2	1,625	11	42	4	1,686	2	—	1,745	15	31	4	1,797
N.-Western Province.														
Kurunégala ...	3	17	1,069	23	44	—	1,156	1	28	404	20	18	—	471
Puttalam ...	—	11	23	7	14	—	55	1	14	7	5	4	—	31
Chilaw ...	2	76	88	8	2	1	177	—	71	51	5	5	2	134
	5	104	1,180	38	60	1	1,388	2	113	462	30	27	2	636
Northern Province.														
Jaffna ...	2	23	—	238	2	—	265	1	18	—	217	6	—	242
Mannár ...	1	4	—	3	4	—	12	—	9	—	2	10	—	21
V.-Viláṅkulam ...	—	3	—	29	2	—	34	—	2	3	20	3	—	28
	3	30	—	270	8	—	311	1	29	3	239	19	—	291
Eastern Province.														
Batticaloa ...	—	22	3	114	47	—	186	—	16	3	92	43	—	154
Trincomalee ...	1	4	5	32	32	—	74	1	8	8	66	4	—	87
	1	26	8	146	79	—	260	1	24	11	158	47	—	241
N.-Central Province.														
Anurádhapura ...	2	6	64	24	15	—	111	2	22	67	39	19	—	149
Mihintalé ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	2	6	64	24	15	—	111	2	22	67	39	19	—	149
Province of Uva.														
Badulla ...	1	6	266	60	25	—	358	2	12	243	60	23	—	340
Total of all Jails	113	678	7,294	1,083	606	36	9,810	65	587	5,656	969	413	25	7,715

M.—Return showing the Nationality of all Prisoners admitted into the Jails of Ceylon during 1887.

Jails	Convicted.								Unconvicted.							
	Europeans.	Burghers.	Sinhalese.	Tamils.	Moors.	Malays.	Others.	Total.	Europeans.	Burghers.	Sinhalese.	Tamils	Moors.	Malays.	Others.	Total.
Western Province.																
Welikada ...	62	15	1,005	235	122	30	9	1,478	—	—	16	6	1	—	—	23
Slave Island / Breakwater	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mahara ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Convict Estab...	62	15	1,005	235	122	30	9	1,478	—	—	16	6	1	—	—	23
Hulftsdorp ...	11	2	136	74	21	3	2	249	4	30	996	200	117	2	—	1,349
Negombo ...	2	—	312	31	3	—	—	348	—	—	445	33	3	—	—	481
Kalutara ...	—	1	540	34	19	—	—	594	1	—	439	32	10	—	—	482
Kégalla ...	—	—	393	7	8	—	—	408	—	—	251	9	7	1	—	268
Ratnapura ...	—	—	256	12	2	—	—	270	—	1	313	42	5	—	—	361
Avisáwélla ...	—	—	234	29	7	—	—	270	—	1	226	20	9	1	—	257
	75	18	2,836	422	182	33	11	3,617	5	32	2,686	342	152	4	—	3,221
Central Province.																
Kandy Old Jail ...	—	—	69	11	13	2	—	95	—	5	411	133	67	8	1	625
Bógambra ...	—	3	1,051	190	109	8	—	1,361	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nuwara Eliya ...	—	—	252	50	6	3	—	311	—	—	158	40	6	1	—	205
Mátalé ...	—	—	256	38	18	—	—	312	—	—	170	30	10	—	—	210
	—	3	1,628	289	146	13	—	2,079	—	5	739	203	83	9	1	1,040
Southern Province.																
Gallo ...	1	1	772	6	25	1	4	810	—	1	596	14	19	1	—	631
Mátara ...	—	—	536	3	8	—	—	547	—	—	387	3	2	—	—	392
Tangalla ...	—	—	143	1	—	—	—	144	—	—	136	2	1	—	—	139
Hambantota ...	—	—	11	1	2	1	—	15	—	—	10	2	4	—	—	16
Ambalantota ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Balapitiya ...	—	—	162	7	—	—	—	169	2	—	607	6	4	—	—	619
	1	1	1,624	18	36	2	4	1,686	2	1	1,736	27	30	1	—	1,797
North-Western Province.																
Kurunégala ...	—	—	1,085	27	40	4	—	1,156	—	—	433	20	15	3	—	471
Puttalam ...	—	—	29	12	14	—	—	55	—	—	17	8	2	1	3	31
Chilaw ...	—	—	157	18	2	—	—	177	—	—	118	11	5	—	—	134
	—	—	1,271	57	56	4	—	1,388	—	—	568	39	22	4	3	636
Northern Province.																
Jaffna ...	—	3	1	259	2	—	—	265	—	2	—	234	6	—	—	242
Mannár ...	—	1	—	7	4	—	—	12	—	—	—	11	10	—	—	21
Vavuniya-Viláṅkulam	—	1	—	31	2	—	—	34	—	—	3	22	3	—	—	28
	—	5	1	297	8	—	—	311	—	2	3	267	19	—	—	291
Eastern Province.																
Batticaloa ...	1	2	4	132	47	—	—	186	—	1	4	106	43	—	—	154
Trincomalee ...	—	—	5	37	27	5	—	74	—	—	8	73	2	2	2	87
	1	2	9	169	74	5	—	260	—	1	12	179	45	2	2	241
North-Central Province.																
Anurádhapura ...	—	2	67	27	13	2	—	111	—	1	86	43	14	5	—	149
Mihintalé ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	—	2	67	27	13	2	—	111	—	1	86	43	14	5	—	149
Province of Uva.																
Badulla ...	1	1	270	61	20	5	—	358	1	1	248	67	21	2	—	340
Total of all Jails ..	78	32	7,746	1340	535	64	15	9,810	8	43	6,078	1,167	386	27	6	7,715

N.—Return showing the Ages of all Prisoners admitted into the Jails of Ceylon during 1887.

Jails.	Convicted.									Unconvicted.								
	Under 16 years.	Between 16 and 20.	20 and 30.	30 and 40.	40 and 50.	50 and 60.	60 and 70.	70 and upwards.	Total.	Under 16 years.	Between 16 and 20.	20 and 30	30 and 40	40 and 50.	50 and 60.	60 and 70.	70 and upwards.	Total.
Western Province.																		
Welikada ...	98	282	705	244	89	45	13	2	1478	1	1	11	4	4	2	—	—	23
Slave Island } Breakwater }	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mahara ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Convict Estab...	98	282	705	244	89	45	13	2	1478	1	1	11	4	4	2	—	—	23
Hulftsdorp ..	—	17	86	122	17	6	1	—	249	—	128	490	558	151	21	1	—	1349
Negombo ...	1	27	111	107	76	24	2	—	348	2	48	157	162	78	30	4	—	481
Kalutara ...	48	60	272	94	58	50	11	1	594	7	50	280	86	33	22	2	2	482
Kégalla ...	4	50	188	110	39	11	6	—	408	2	36	129	64	27	8	2	—	268
Ratnapura ..	1	35	131	73	18	11	1	—	270	3	34	168	111	40	5	—	—	361
Avisáwélla ...	6	54	124	44	29	11	1	1	270	1	42	115	52	25	17	5	—	257
	158	525	1617	794	326	158	35	4	3617	16	339	1350	1037	358	105	14	2	3221
Central Province.																		
Kandy Old Jail...	44	10	26	12	3	—	—	—	95	25	112	222	118	82	48	14	4	625
Bógambra ...	—	81	511	633	125	10	1	—	1361	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nuwara Eliya ...	—	28	133	99	43	8	—	—	311	1	39	74	60	26	5	—	—	205
Mátalé ...	4	35	169	54	32	18	—	—	312	2	40	101	42	14	10	1	—	210
	48	154	839	798	203	36	1	—	2079	28	191	397	220	122	63	15	4	1040
Southern Province.																		
Galle ...	14	103	333	209	90	45	14	2	810	19	121	267	112	58	28	21	5	631
Mátara ...	—	33	224	191	56	30	10	3	547	2	25	176	150	29	7	2	1	392
Taygalla ...	1	15	84	31	9	4	—	—	144	2	25	45	44	13	10	—	—	139
Hambantota ...	—	3	9	2	1	—	—	—	15	2	3	7	1	—	1	2	—	16
Ambalantota ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Balapitiya ...	5	36	71	38	14	5	—	—	169	2	102	137	168	108	61	36	5	619
	20	190	721	472	170	84	24	5	1686	27	276	632	475	208	107	61	11	1797
North-Western Province																		
Kurunégala ...	4	241	450	315	119	25	2	—	1156	6	83	189	139	44	6	3	1	471
Puttalam ...	—	5	25	12	6	3	1	3	55	—	3	13	9	5	1	—	—	31
Chilaw ...	—	—	32	90	36	13	4	2	177	—	—	19	84	24	5	1	1	134
	4	246	507	417	161	41	7	5	1388	6	86	221	232	73	12	4	2	636
Northern Province.																		
Jaffna ...	7	40	122	55	24	11	5	1	265	3	32	110	58	23	12	2	2	242
Mannár ...	—	—	6	2	4	—	—	—	12	—	3	7	4	5	2	—	—	21
V.-Viláykulam ...	—	5	14	7	6	1	1	—	34	—	2	11	8	6	1	—	—	28
	7	45	142	64	34	12	6	1	311	3	37	128	70	34	15	2	2	291
Eastern Province.																		
Batticaloa ...	5	13	98	45	11	11	2	1	186	1	8	83	37	13	5	7	—	154
Trincomalee ...	2	5	27	24	14	2	—	—	74	—	12	47	23	3	2	—	—	87
	7	18	125	69	25	13	2	1	260	1	20	130	60	16	7	7	—	241
North-Central Province.																		
Anurádhapura	—	11	52	26	13	8	1	—	111	2	17	85	36	9	—	—	—	149
Mihintalé ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	—	11	52	26	13	8	1	—	111	2	17	85	36	9	—	—	—	149
Province of Uva.																		
Badulla ...	5	45	160	96	29	18	4	1	358	14	30	141	94	37	20	3	1	340
Total of all Jails	249	1234	4163	2736	961	370	80	17	9810	97	996	3084	2224	857	329	106	22	7715

O.—Return showing the Number of Prisoners admitted into the Jails of Ceylon during 1887 on Conviction before the Supreme Court, classified according to Crime.

JAILS.	Offences against the Person.								Offences against Property with Violence.				Offences against Property without Violence.							Forgery, Perjury, and Offences against Coining.						Miscellaneous	Grand Total.
	Murder and Manslaughter.	Assault, Aggravated.	Rape.	Riot.	Assault and Abduction.	Administering Poison.	Conspiracy to charge with Crime.	Total.	Highway Robbery.	Burglary.	Assault and Robbery.	Total.	Cattle-stealing.	Theft.	Fraud.	Coffee-stealing.	Arson.	Malicious Injury.	Total.	Forgery.	Perjury.	Coining.	Obtaining money under False Pretences.	Conspiracy and Forgery.	Total.	Unclassified, including Breaches against Ordinances.	
Western Province.																											
Welikada ...	22	30	—	—	—	—	—	52	1	3	1	5	1	35	2	—	—	—	38	4	1	1	—		6	—	101
Slave Island	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Breakwater	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mahara ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Convict Estab...	22	30	—	—	—	—	—	52	1	3	1	5	1	35	2	—	—	—	38	4	1	1	—	—	6	—	101
Hulftsdorp ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Negombo ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kalutara ...	1	—	3	—	5	—	—	9		5	—	5	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	3	—	—	3	—	19
Kégalla ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ratnapura ...	4	3	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	2	—	2	—	13	—	—	—	—	13	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	23
Avisáwélla ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	27	33	3	—	5	—	—	68	1	10	1	12	1	50	2	—	—	—	53	4	1	5	—	—	10	1	144
Central Province.																											
Kandy Old Jail ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bógambra ...	8	1	3	—	6	—	—	18	—	7	—	7	—	13	—	—	2	—	15	2	—	—	—	—	2	2	44
Nuwara Eliya ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mátalé ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	8	1	3	—	6	—	—	18	—	7	—	7	—	13	—	—	2	—	15	2	—	—	—	—	2	2	44
Southern Province.																											
Galle ...	7	4	1	3	—	—	—	15	—	3	—	3		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	—	20
Mátara ...	7	9	—	—	—	—	—	16	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	6	25
Tangalla ...	4	—	—	—	1	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	6
Hambantota ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ambalantota ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Balapitiya ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	18	13	1	3	1	—	—	36	2	3	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	—	—	4	6	51
North-Western Province.																											
Kurunégala ...	5	8	2	8	—	—	—	23	1	8	11	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	—	—	4	3	50
Puttalam ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chilaw ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	5	8	2	8	—	—	—	23	1	8	11	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	—	—	4	3	50
Northern Province.																											
Jaffna ...	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	10
Mannár ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
V.-Vilápkulam ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	10
Eastern Province.																											
Batticaloa ...	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	4	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	4	—	10
Trincomalee ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	6
	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	4	2	5	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	—	—	—	5	—	16
North-Central Province																											
Anurádhapura ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mihintalé ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Province of Uva.																											
Badulla ...	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	7	—	7	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	4	—	—	—	5	2	20
Total of all Jails...	69	57	9	11	14	—	—	160	6	40	13	59	1	64	2	—	3	—	70	14	6	11	—	—	31	15	335

P.—Return showing the Number of Prisoners admitted into the Jails of Ceylon during 1887, on conviction before the District Courts, classified according to Crime.

JAILS.	Offences against the Person.					Offences against Property with Violence.				Offences against Property without Violence.				Forgery, Perjury, and Offences against Coining.				Miscellaneous	Grand Total.
	Assault. Aggravated.	Riot.	Assault & Abduction.	Concealment of Birth.	Total.	Highway Robbery.	Burglary.	Assault and Robbery.	Total.	Cattle-stealing.	Theft.	Coffee-stealing.	Total.	Forgery.	Perjury.	Coining.	Total.	Unclassified, including breaches against Ordinances.	
Western Province.																			
Welikada ..	9	—	11	—	20	—	2	3	5	4	12	—	16	—	—	—	—	41	82
Slave Island } Breakwater }	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mahara ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Convict Estab...	9	—	11	—	20	—	2	3	5	4	12	—	16	—	—	—	—	41	82
Hulftsdorp ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Negombo ...	26	—	—	—	26	—	2	—	2	17	11	—	28	—	1	—	1	5	62
Kalutara ...	13	—	2	—	15	—	10	—	10	4	36	—	40	—	—	—	—	6	71
Kégalla ...	15	—	—	—	15	—	—	—	—	5	3	—	8	—	3	—	3	—	26
Ratnapura ...	4	—	4	—	8	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	10
Avisáwélla ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	67	—	17	—	84	—	14	3	17	32	62	—	94	—	4	—	4	52	251
Central Province.																			
Kandy Old Jail...	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	3		—	—	—	—	4
Bógambra ...	18	—	26	—	44	—	14	4	18	5	12	—	17	—	5	1	6	13	98
Nuwara Eliya ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mátalé ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	18	—	27	—	45	—	14	4	18	5	15	—	20	—	5	1	6	13	102
Southern Province.																			
Galle ...	19	—	12	—	31	—	4	—	4	—	7	—	7	—	—	—	—	3	45
Mátara ..	—	7	31	—	38	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	4	44
Tangalla	—	—	6	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	8
Hambantota ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ambalantota ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Balapitiya ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	19	7	49	—	75	—	4	—	4	—	9	—	9	—	—	—	—	9	97
N.-Western Province.																			
Kurunégala ...	14	—	—	—	14	—	2	—	2	21	1	—	22	—	—	2	2	4	44
Puttalam ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chilaw ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
	14	—	—	—	14	—	4	—	4	21	1	—	22	—	—	2	2	4	46
Northern Province.																			
Jaffna ...	6	—	5	—	11	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	5	—	5	5	22
Mannár ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
V.-Viláṇkulam ...	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
	8	—	5	—	13	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	5	—	5	5	24
Eastern Province.																			
Batticaloa ...	—	—	9	—	9	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	1	13
Trincomalee ...	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	5
	2	—	9	—	11	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	3	18
N.-Central Province.																			
Anurádhapura ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	2	1	3	1	10	—	11	—	1	1	2	2	19
Mihintalé ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1	—	—	—	1	—	2	1	3	1	10	—	11	—	1	1	2	2	19
Province of Uva.																			
Badulla ..	—	—	1	—	1	—	3	—	3	1	2	—	3	—	1	—	1	1	9
Total of all Jails	129	7	108	—	244	—	41	8	49	64	100	—	164	—	16	4	20	89	566

Q.—Return showing the Number of Prisoners admitted into the Jails of Ceylon during

JAILS.	Strictly Criminal Offences.								Statutory Offences of a *quasi* Criminal Nature:									
	Simple Assault.	Assault and Theft.	Theft.	Malicious Injury.	Goat-stealing.	Cattle-stealing.	Burglary.	Total.	Vagrancy.	Breach of the Public Peace.	Drunk and Disorderly.	Gambling.	Police Ordinance.	Administration of Justice.	Cruelty to Animals.	Cattle Trespass.	Weights and Measures.	Butchers.
Western Province.																		
Węlikada ...	102	9	533	—	—	28	—	672	1	58	19	86	—	12	7	—	—	—
Slave Island }	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Breakwater }																		
Mahara ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Convict Estab.	102	9	533	—	—	28	—	672	1	58	19	86	—	12	7	—	—	—
Hulftsdorp ...	4	—	11	—	—	—	1	16	41	95	—	—	26	—	6	—	—	—
Negombo ...	37	—	46	—	—	2	—	85	—	2	7	14	4	1	4	—	—	—
Kalutara ...	52	—	173	—	—	1	14	240	3	11	5	19	—	1	—	—	—	1
Kęgalla ...	51	20	90	—	—	25	—	186	—	—	—	50	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ratnapura ...	8	1	42	—	—	25	—	76	7	4	—	5	—	—	—	1	1	—
Avisáwélla ...	30	1	93	—	—	—	3	127	4	—	3	13	—	—	—	4	—	1
	284	31	988	—	—	81	18	1,402	56	170	34	187	30	14	17	5	1	2
Central Province.																		
Kandy Old Jail ...	5	—	31	—	—	—	—	36	—	10	7	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bógambra ...	76	—	329	6	—	2	4	417	3	20	1	50	—	3	—	—	—	22
Nuwara Eliya ..	10	—	65	—	—	5	4	84	—	—	4	18	—	5	4	—	—	2
Mátalé ...	48	—	81	—	—	11	—	140	—	30	3	16	—	2	2	2	—	2
	139	—	506	6	—	18	8	677	3	60	15	85	—	10	6	2	—	26
Southern Province.																		
Galle ...	41	—	153	—	—	2	7	203	36	—	17	—	—	4	—	—	—	10
Mátara ...	25	1	81	—	—	—	—	107	3	3	1	1	—	4	1	—	—	—
Tapgalla ...	26	—	33	—	—	31	—	90	—	—	—	2	—	2	1	—	—	—
Hambantota ...	2	—	3	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ambalantota ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Balapitiya ...	33	—	79	—	1	12	—	125	7	1	—	1	—	4	—	—	1	3
	127	1	349	—	1	45	7	530	47	4	18	4	—	14	2	—	1	13
N.-Western Province.																		
Kurunęgala ...	13	1	49	—	5	85	—	153	2	—	1	7	—	—	—	—	—	28
Puttalam ...	9	—	10	—	—	—	—	19	—	—	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chilaw ...	8	—	38	—	—	13	3	62	1	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—
	30	1	97	—	5	98	3	234	3	—	2	16	—	—	—	—	—	28
Northern Province.																		
Jaffna ...	7	1	97	38	9	—	—	152	7	12	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mannár ...	1	—	7	1	—	1	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
V.-Vilápkulam ...	2	—	3	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	10	1	107	39	9	1	—	167	7	12	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Eastern Province.																		
Batticaloa ...	33	—	70	—	—	—	2	105	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Trincomalee ...	11	—	11	1	—	—	1	24	—	—	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
	44	—	81	1	—	—	3	129	11	—	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
N.-Central Province.																		
Anurádhapura ...	7	—	16	—	—	9	—	32	—	4	2	3	—	1	—	—	—	—
Mihintalé ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	7	—	16	—	—	9	—	32	—	4	2	3	—	1	—	—	—	—
Province of Uva.																		
Badulla ...	26	—	73	6	—	11	10	126	5	—	7	—	—	3	—	—	—	7
Total of all Jails	667	34	2,217	52	15	263	49	3,297	132	250	85	299	30	42	25	7	2	76

1887, on conviction before the Police Courts, classified according to Crimes.

Breaches of Ordinance relating to													Offences against Revenue: Breaches of Ordinances relating to.								Unclassified.	
Prisons.	Nuisances.	Vaccination.	Labour.	Fiscal.	Forcible Possession of Land.	Avoiding Medical Inspection.	Coffee-stealing.	Railway Ordinance.	Grain Ordinance.	Merchant Shipping Act.	Village Tribunals.	Total.	Thoroughfares.	Paddy.	Arrack, Rum, and Toddy.	Timber.	Salt.	Tolls.	Carriers and Carriages.	Total.	Miscellaneous.	Grand Total.
2	83	—	—	—	—	47	—	1	—	27	119	462	58	—	1	—	—	—	62	121	40	1,295
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2	83	—	—	—	—	47	—	1	—	27	119	462	58	—	1	—	—	—	62	121	40	1,295
—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	21	—	—	—	190	8	—	12	—	—	—	—	20	22	248
1	—	—	13	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	49	117	—	6	—	—	—	1	124	28	286
2	—	1	25	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	69	138	—	9	—	—	—	1	148	47	504
8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	99	157	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	14	26	382
—	8	—	3	—	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	39	70	—	6	—	—	—	—	76	46	237
—	—	—	23	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	53	101	—	—	6	3	—	—	—	9	33	270
13	91	2	64	1	1	47	10	23	—	27	272	1,067	405	—	40	3	—	—	64	52	241	3,222
—	—	—	—	—	—	13	—	2	—	—	2	35	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	8	12	91
13	—	—	14	—	—	—	1	8	—	—	77	212	498	—	35	—	—	—	—	533	57	1,219
3	2	—	9	—	1	—	5	—	—	—	6	59	112	—	4	1	—	—	—	117	51	311
—	—	—	5	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	63	70	—	19	3	—	—	—	92	17	312
16	2	—	28	—	1	13	7	10	—	—	85	369	680	—	66	4	—	—	—	750	137	1,933
1	9	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	82	407	—	2	—	—	—	—	409	51	745
—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	142	157	171	—	1	22	—	—	—	194	20	478
—	—	—	1	—	6	—	—	—	1	—	—	13	6	—	—	1	—	—	—	7	20	130
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—	15
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	13	30	—	—	1	6	—	—	—	7	7	169
1	9	—	1	—	8	5	—	—	1	—	155	283	594	—	4	29	—	—	—	627	98	1,538
1	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	65	107	777	—	4	1	—	—	—	782	20	1,062
—	—	—	1	—	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	24	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	1	55
2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	39	—	—	—	—	—	—	39	66	175
3	1	—	3	—	18	—	—	—	—	—	65	139	827	—	4	1	—	—	—	832	87	1,292
—	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	34	—	—	41	—	4	—	—	45	2	233
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	12
—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	9	1	—	—	9	—	—	19	7	32
—	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	35	9	1	41	—	13	—	—	64	11	277
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	12	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	34	163
1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	25	—	—	—	—	—	—	25	6	63
1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	20	37	—	—	—	—	—	—	37	40	226
—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	13	—	—	—	1	—	—	14	35	92
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	13	—	—	—	1	—	—	14	35	92
4	6	—	15	—	—	—	40	—	—	—	2	89	88	—	15	6	—	—	—	109	5	329
38	120	2	112	2	28	65	57	33	1	27	580	2,013	2,653	1	170	43	14	—	64	2,945	654	8,909

R.—Return showing the Earnings of Prisoners in each of the Jails of Ceylon during 1887.

JAILS.	For Prison Services.	To Public Works.	Value of Manufactures.	Other Reimbursements.	Total.
Western Province.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Welikada	19,369	17,635	27,193	2,662	66,859
Slave Island ... } Breakwater ... }	10,743	28,512	2,866	124	42,245
Mahara	5,667	5,528	25,026	532	36,753
Convict Establishment...	35,779	51,675	55,085	3,318	145,857
Hulftsdorp	1,280	1,591	—	—	2,871
Negombo	2,389	3,339	1,165	—	6,893
Kalutara	1,375	4,690	—	—	6,065
Kégalla	363	698	—	—	1,061
Ratnapura	318	1,312	210	—	1,840
Avisáwélla	226	228	—	—	454
	5,951	11,858	1,375	—	19,184
Central Province.					
Kandy Old Jail	926	226	218	—	1,370
Bógambra	8,058	38,472	1,447	16	47,993
Nuwara Eliya	435	3,298	—	—	3,733
Mátalé	—	1,159	124	—	1,283
	9,419	43,155	1,789	16	54,379
Southern Province.					
Galle	3,255	5,900	2,130	—	11,285
Mátara	386	3,643	—	—	4,029
Tangalla	816	1,706	258	2	2,782
Hambantota ... } Ambalantota ... }	3,089	13,748	—	—	16,837
Balapitiya	188	301	—	—	489
	7,734	25,298	2,388	2	35,422
North-Western Province.					
Kurunégala	3,980	17,919	2,080	—	23,979
Puttalam	990	3,997	4	—	4,991
Chilaw	622	2,201	—	—	2,823
	5,592	24,117	2,084	—	31,793
Northern Province.					
Jaffna	1,950	26,231	—	—	28,181
Mannár	14	57	—	—	71
Vavuniya-Vilánkulam ...	116	379	—	—	495
	2,080	26,667	—	—	28,747
Eastern Province.					
Batticaloa	1,181	5,909	53	—	7,143
Trincomalee	274	2,873	93	—	3,240
	1,455	8,782	146	—	10,383
North-Central Province.					
Anurádhapura	1,457	11,447	124	—	13,028
Province of Uva.					
Badulla	2,335	11,672	437	—	14,444
Total of all Jails...	71,802	214,671	63,428	3,336	353,237

S.—Return showing the Expenditure under each Head, on each of the Prisons of Ceylon, during 1887.

Jails.	Establishment.				Prison Services.										Grand Total.	Gross Cost per Head.
	Fixed.	Provisional.	Additional.	Total.	Victualling.	Hospital Charges.	Clothing and Bedding.	Lighting.	Equipment.	Materials for Manufacture.	Transfer Expenses.	Special Charges.	Petty Charges.	Total.		
Western Province.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Welikada ...	6990	16536	17309	40835	46094	2063	11233	1199	3312	861	1676	2007	582	69027	109862	197
Slave Island Breakwater	1775	20588	—	22363	24693	3	3048	640	696	—	79	9441	77	38677	61040	165
Mahara ...	2584	7535	7490	17609	20097	10	3483	287	1100	403	77	11417	698	37572	55181	172
Convict Estab...	11349	44659	24799	80807	90884	2076	17764	2126	5108	1264	1832	22865	1357	145276	226083	
Hulftsdorp ...	3490	2120	901	6511	5115	13	221	160	350	—	99	426	366	6750	13261	135
Negombo ...	470	2270	2990	5730	10268	640	930	146	87	362	237	72	147	12889	18619	107
Kalutara ...	590	540	515	1645	7563	171	183	160	—	—	399	2	77	8555	10200	101
Kégalla ...	590	158	226	974	1961	38	236	136	—	--	236	47	54	2709	3682	172
Ratnapura ...	590	800	1361	2751	4368	59	106	279	29	—	264	—	114	5218	7970	157
Avisáwélla ..	360	480	228	1068	1119	—	60	54	10	—	13	—	24	1280	2348	170
	6090	6368	6221	18679	30394	921	1736	935	476	362	1248	547	782	37401	56080	
Central Province.																
Kandy Old Jail ...	840	1910	686	3437	2794	—	253	145	57	—	216	—	233	3698	7135	161
Bógambra ...	3154	4656	4906	12712	19756	194	2030	602	544	257	1391	480	419	25671	38383	103
Nuwara Eliya ...	840	934	633	2407	4090	20	392	112	14	—	114	72	134	4949	7356	113
Mátalé ...	456	300	169	925	1227	—	123	73	5	4	256	—	33	1722	2647	122
	5287	7800	6394	19481	27867	214	2798	932	620	261	1977	552	819	36040	55521	
Southern Province.																
Galle ...	3640	2580	2141	8362	11256	249	1582	227	38	428	354	180	330	14643	23005	113
Mátara ...	551	657	624	1832	4574	149	291	261	143	—	147	8	248	5822	7654	103
Tangalla ...	420	420	524	1364	3104	60	149	282	75	18	59	44	76	3867	5231	129
Hambantota Ambalantota	1980	1450	1050	4480	8579	175	438	263	263	—	263	44	175	10200	14680	129
Balapitiya ...	360	480	62	902	1120	—	44	52	26	9	66	20	42	1379	2281	146
	6951	5588	4401	16940	28633	633	2504	1085	545	455	889	296	871	35911	52851	
N.-Western Province.																
Kurunégala ...	1218	1860	1879	4957	11853	314	1341	400	202	17	189	40	281	14638	19594	88
Puttalam ...	480	1200	1062	2742	4697	1050	347	174	151	—	50	—	108	6577	9319	120
Chilaw ...	480	780	64	1324	2737	88	51	161	11	—	78	—	33	3158	4482	119
	2178	3840	3005	9023	19287	1452	1739	735	364	17	317	40	422	24373	33395	
Northern Province.																
Jaffna ...	2010	4254	237	6501	20069	201	2328	367	219	2	877	12	443	24518	31019	106
Mannár ...	390	—	30	420	239	—	1	67	—	—	104	—	17	428	848	764
V.-Vilápkulam ...	—	760	15	775	364	—	—	34	3	—	31	9	60	501	1276	176
	2400	5014	282	7696	20672	201	2329	468	222	2	1012	21	520	25447	33143	
Eastern Province.																
Batticáloa ...	980	599	227	1806	4821	13	588	129	104	13	504	11	139	6323	8129	102
Trincomalee ...	840	42	158	1040	2532	70	303	163	45	3	259	4	121	3500	4540	135
	1820	641	385	2846	7353	83	891	292	150	16	763	15	260	9823	12669	
N.-Central Province.																
Anurádhapura ...	750	1160	2440	4350	11191	62	802	201	96	—	137	64	297	12850	17200	120
Province of Uva.																
Badulla ..	408	610	1301	2319	8043	5	627	415	221	26	439	30	252	10058	12378	129
Total of all Jails...	37233	75680	49228	162141	244324	5647	31190	7189	7802	2403	8614	24430	5580	337179	499320	

PART IV.

MISCELLANEOUS.

PART IV.—MISCELLANEOUS.

ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR FOR 1887.

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1.—*Pérádeniya Gardens.*

Roads and Paths.—Work on the carriage roads is almost constant in these extensive grounds, and it is becoming increasingly difficult to keep them in good condition. There is very much more carriage traffic than was the case formerly, and the large overhanging trees, of which the shade is so much appreciated, cause much damage in wet weather from their heavy drip. Moreover, the beds of river gravel, which have supplied binding material since the foundation of the Garden, are now almost worked out, and for the future we shall have to look for a supply outside the Garden. During the past year, several roads were remade, including the drive to the Store and Plant houses. All the footpaths in the old arboretum were taken in hand and entirely remade, turfed, and drained. A new footpath was constructed from that under the Java Almond trees to the Cabbage Palm avenue, and another is half finished, leading from the large Circle through a part of the arboretum hitherto inaccessible to visitors, and containing some fine and picturesque trees. The grass-verges on both sides of the Main Drive have been renewed, and it is intended in future to pay more attention to them than has hitherto been possible. The excessive rainfall at the end of the year has left all our roads in bad condition, and much work is required on them.

Buildings.—Several of these now need repair. I remarked upon the condition of the Museum building and its godowns in my last report, but nothing has been done to them. The Director's bungalow and that of the Head Gardener also much require attention, and the building which contains the Herbarium and Library wants repainting and whitewashing. I trust all this may be attended to during 1888.

New Conservatory.—In accordance with the intention expressed in last year's report, I have now nearly completed the construction of a new house, which I expect will prove more suitable for the culture of Orchids, Ferns, and other ornamental plants than the structures at present existing here. The framework of the new house is entirely of iron, save a low brick wall, and I have to express my thanks to Government for supplying me, free of cost, with sufficient old railway rails for the main supports; the lesser ones are formed of iron rod, and the whole covered in with galvanised wire-netting. The form of this building is a cross with wide unequal arms and a shallow dome at the intersection. The length of the cross is 51 ft. in one direction and 42 ft. in the other, and the width of the arms and diameter of the dome 21 ft. The stages for the plants are built wholly of stone, and the paths are cemented. No woodwork being employed in any part, the ravages of white ants and dry rot need not be feared. It is intended to cover the wire-netting at the sides with leafy climbing and twining plants, whilst that over the roof will support a light covering of bamboo-tats, coir-netting, or grass, as may prove most suitable. I confidently expect this will form a valuable addition to our resources, and by enabling us to have on view a finer collection of beautiful plants will prove also an additional attraction of the Garden. It is an expensive work, but the cost is being spread over two years, and, by the exercise of economy in other directions, will be met out of our ordinary votes.

Cultivation, &c.—We have had some trouble with our water-supply. The pipe conveying the water, which taps a perennial stream on the hills some 100 ft. above the Garden, is about half a mile in length, and was laid down in 1874. Recent activity in tea cultivation has led to the clearing of much land on the upper part of the stream, with the result that after heavy rain a quantity of silt is brought down and enters the pipe. This has been completely choked several times during the rains of April, May, and June, and November and December, and for some time (fortunately in rainy weather) we were without any water-supply. A good deal of difficulty has been found in clearing out the pipes, but it is hoped that as the new plantations get settled down the wash will be diminished, and indeed the amount of silt appears to have already lessened.

A large pit for manure has been dug in a little-frequented part of the Garden by the cattle shed. We have now, I hope, secured a regular small supply of stable manure from Kandy, but our needs are far in excess of any means of meeting them.

During the wet weather of June, the Cockchafer larvæ were again busy at the roots of the grass on the Circular lawn. But the damage done was much less than in 1885, and again the crows were our best friends, searching for and devouring incessantly the grubs so long as any were to be obtained.

The two well-known and picturesque groves of palms at the entrance and in the centre of the large Circle have received some attention this year. Most of the palms in them have now attained a great height and considerable age, and the ground beneath them has become bare and unsightly. Several times we have endeavoured to plant this with young specimens which should take the place of the older ones as these died off, but so deteriorated is the soil and so completely filled with a network of roots that nothing could be grown. During the very wet weather of the end of the year, however, we have succeeded in establishing 40 young palms—mostly of additional species—under the old ones, by planting them in tubs sunk in the ground; by the time these have rotted away the young plants will have thoroughly got hold of the soil.

An avenue of Palmyra Palms has been initiated on the site of the old kitchen garden. The seeds were planted *in situ*, and have germinated well.

One of the Talipot Palms *(Corypha umbraculifera)* in the Garden has flowered during the year, and has been an object of much interest to visitors. The event is of more importance than usual, as the age of the tree being pretty accurately known, a question often discussed is set at rest. The specimen is remembered well to have been a seedling of two or three years old when Mr. Gardner became Superintendent of the Gardens in 1843; it is therefore 46 or 47 years old. I believe, from inquiries I have made in other cases, that this is about the usual age for this Palm to reach maturity and flower. The great inflorescence was first observed to be pushing itself up in August, and by the middle of October it was in advanced bud and feathery in appearance; the flowers opened about November 25, and still remained in perfection at the close of the year.

Among plants of interest which flowered for the first time in Pérádeniya during the year were *Oncoba spinosa*, *Wormia Burbidgei*, *Brownea Ariza* and *B. grandiceps*, *Lonchocarpus cyanescens*, *Styrax Benzoin*, *Angræcum sesquipedale* and many other Orchids, *Bactris minor* and *Actinorrhytis Calapparia*. The Sandalwood *(Santalum album)* ripened a good crop of seed.

Visitors.—The number of signatures, nearly all of travellers and tourists, entered in the visitors' book at the Lodge during the year is 1,302. This, of course, is but a small proportion of the number of persons who visited the Gardens.

The suggestion I ventured to make in my last report as to the desirability in the interests of the public of removing the Pérádeniya railway station from its present out-of-the-way position to the crossing of the Deltota road has not at present had any practical result. It has, however, met with almost universal approval, and is especially strongly supported by the residents near Pérádeniya. I am therefore emboldened to again press it on the notice of Government, and to do so in the interests of the Gardens themselves. We should save much time, labour, and expense in our constant communication with Colombo and Kandy if we had the railway station at an easy distance, and without the intervention of a heavy toll on our carts.

Weather.—The rainfall of 1887 was somewhat unusually distributed through the year. We suffered a good deal from drought in March, but this was followed by the wettest April on record. May was very much drier than usual, the S.W. monsoon rains setting in late. At the end of August and beginning of September we had unusually heavy rains, which were followed by a month of very dry weather. October and November gave a rainfall well up to the average, whilst December was here, as over the whole Island, excessively wet, more than double the usual amount falling.

We experienced some very cold mornings at the end of January; a thermometer in my verandah registered at 7 A.M. on January 30 the very low temperature of 58° F.

The following is Mr. Clark's record of the rainfall for the year. The heaviest fall in any twenty-four hours registered was 3·02 in. on December 14—15.

The average monthly rainfall for the last 4–5 years is also added.

Rainfall at Pérádeniya.

	1887.		Average.		
	Rainfall.	Rainy Days.	Rainfall.	Rainy Days.	
January	1·26	3	1·69	4	for 4 years
February	3·16	5	1·49	8	
March	3·48	4	3·51	7	
April	14·43	14	8·52	12	
May	3·76	8	8·70	11	
June	11·23	27	9·83	19	
July	4·75	11	7·81	15	for 5 years
August	4·43	15	7·59	15	
September	4·68	15	6·67	12	
October	12·68	22	12·19	19	
November	10·05	24	10·18	17	
December	16·15	21	7·84	12	
Total ...	90·06	169	87·33	144	for 4 years

2.—*Hakgala Garden.*

No additional works of any importance have been undertaken during the past year, though many small improvements have been made. All we can attempt to do is to keep up the Garden at as high a degree of cultivation and efficiency as our votes will permit. The Superintendent much complains of the want of a stock of good gardening tools, but this want (which is felt in all the Gardens under my care) cannot be fully relieved with the scanty means for such purposes at my disposal.

The Public Works Department have done some further repairs to the Superintendent's bungalow, which has also been repainted and whitewashed.

Some damage has been caused by the very heavy rains at the end of the year to the roads, paths, and flower beds; and it will take time and labour to repair and restore them to their former condition.

From Mr. Nock's full report for the year I extract the following details:—

Buildings.—In August, No. 1 plant shed was blown down by the high winds, and a good many of the young plants underneath were damaged. Material was at once collected and the shed rebuilt.

During the very heavy rain on December 18, the old potting shed collapsed, and broke a considerable number of flower pots and seed pans, besides destroying a lot of garden and jungle seeds of our own gathering. Posts cut from the jungle, and immediately used, I find, rarely last more than four or five years; and although it will be necessary to build a temporary shed at once for present use, it is hoped we shall be able during the year 1888 to build a permanent potting house with brick or stone pillars.

It will also be necessary to repair the roof and walls of the Foreman's quarters, and to whitewash the walls inside and out.

Carriage Drive and Paths.—The carriage drive and the various paths in the garden were maintained in good order until towards the end of the year. For the last six weeks of the year very heavy rain fell—33·77 inches falling in December—and this has greatly damaged the drive and paths in every part. On many of the steep places, and under large trees, the continual downpour and drip fretted out all the gravel and small stones, and the rush of water has ploughed up the paths to a great depth.

A great drawback to the formation and maintenance of roads in this garden is the want of good gravel. There is no gravel nearer than Sitá-eliya, one mile on the one side, and Alakolagala, two and a half miles on the other; and even at these places it is very poor: at Sitá-eliya being no more than rough sand brought down by the heavy rain, and limited in quantity.

The old portion of the carriage drive now wants metalling, and an endeavour will be made to do it during the coming year.

Several times after heavy rain the drive was well beaten with heavy stamps. This work, when done by hand, takes a good bit of labour, and the want of a handy roller has been much felt.

Rough sand was carted in from the stream at Sitá-eliya at intervals of two or three months, and spread over the paths in the fernery and other parts of the garden, to give them a neat and fresh appearance.

Two new paths have been made during the year—one to connect the main drive with the shrubbery path by the large triangular bed above the herbaceous garden, and the other from the south-east end of the propagating house across the gully by carpenters' quarters, and leading into the new part of the nursery garden. Two retaining walls, each 10 ft. long and 7 ft. deep, were built in this gully to support a rough wooden bridge, which has been laid down by the carpenter, and a retaining wall, 20 ft. long, with an average depth of two ft., was built on the lower side of the new path near the gully.

Another retaining wall, 88 ft. long, with an average depth of 3 ft., has also been built at the south-east end of the flower garden, and the hollow filled in with the soil taken from just above, where it is intended to build a shed for the cart bullocks.

In November, the curve of the main drive, which was very unsightly just below the flower garden, was altered, by cutting away the bank for a distance of 50 ft. and varying in breadth from 8 ft. to a few inches. New drains were made here, turf verges laid down, and the road repaired and metalled.

Turf verges, 12 in. wide, were laid along sides of drive and new paths for a total length of 424 running yards, and 106 square yards of turf were laid down on the side banks in the flower and herbaceous gardens.

Fernery.—In January, 1,020 plants of mixed ferns, begonias, violets, and primulas were planted out under the trees in the new part of the fernery opened out at the end of last year. A large number of similar plants have also been planted in shady spots in other parts of the fernery and rock beds. Several of the beds have been entirely replanted, the old soil with the jungle roots being removed and replaced with surface soil from the jungle. The fernery being formed under the native jungle trees, it must be expected that the roots of these trees will always give trouble. They grow with such rapidity into the new soil placed there for the benefit of the ferns, that in many of the beds there is now nothing but one mat of roots; and unless the soil is constantly stirred and renewed the ferns suffer very much. The heavy rains in December having washed away large quantities of the surface soil, the true state of things is quite visible, and a large amount of work, in the way of replanting and manuring, requires to be done at once.

Many of the tree ferns have grown rapidly during the year, and some of the specimens of our native tree ferns (*Alsophila crinita*) are really very fine, and are much admired. One specimen in the centre of the fernery is now 15 ft. high, and carries a head of 22 fronds, the spread of these being 17 ft. 8 in. An average frond on this specimen spread out measures 9 ft. long and 4 ft. broad.

Plant Sheds and Nurseries.—The main work, as usual, in the sheds and nurseries has been the raising and keeping up of a good stock of plants for the use of the garden and for distribution.

About 100 scions of the large plum have been grafted on the small-fruited, but strong-growing, cooking plum. They have nearly all taken, and are doing well.

A large piece of new land was added to the nursery at the beginning of the year, and a strong post and rail fence was placed round it. The fence is 220 yards long.

Borders and Shrubberies.—A good deal of attention was given to the borders and shrubberies in opening out new borders, laying down turf verges, digging, manuring, staking, pruning, and keeping them tidy. 52,703 garden plants and shrubs were set out during the year.

Roots and stones were removed from the bit of land between the herbaceous garden and lower summer arbour. On the side next the drive, for a distance of 78 ft., a border was made and planted with showy plants, ribbon-border fashion. The other part was planted with foreign shrubs, and the spaces between filled in with mixed chrysanthemums.

A few shrubs were also planted at the back of the summer arbour, and clumps of red and yellow cannas were planted alternately along each side of the path from the main drive to the arbour.

The rock beds in the bend of the drive above the new pond were entirely remade and replanted with ferns, begonias, and shade-loving plants. As this is a very sheltered spot, several cartloads of specially-prepared soil was placed in the centre, and in it a plant of Abyssinian banana (*Musa Ensete*) was planted, in the middle of August. It was then only about 6 in. high; it is now 5 ft., and is expected to become a very fine plant.

A rock bed was prepared under the eugenia tree just below the rose garden, and 60 of the different *Cactaceæ*, which we had in pots, have been planted out in it.

The *Duranta* hedge planted along the boundary, near the entrance gates, last year did not come on at all well. It has been therefore supplanted by the native *Ligustrum*, in the hope that this will grow and form a neat fence, as it is a very hardy plant. This part of the garden is very much out of order, and the jagged irregular bank along the roadside is very unsightly; it is hoped that during the coming year something will be done for its improvement.

Upper Ornamental Pond.—The largest piece of work undertaken during the year was the excavation of the mud and silt from this pond.

In some places the mud was 4 ft. deep, and the average must have been very nearly 3 ft. About 100 cartloads of this were used to fill up borders, the hollow place below the herbaceous garden, and for mixing with manure for the roses and other plants. The rest was laid in heaps in the nearest vacant spots. Piles were driven in to strengthen the bank along the path on the north-east side, the bank filled up level with the path, and a verge laid along it. Two retaining walls were built up on each side of the path where the old outlet was, and the space between filled in with clay well rammed, and on the top of this the outlet drain was laid. The water in the pond, which used to be very muddy, is now quite clear.

In April, limestone was blasted from rocks in the bit of jungle between the patanas just below the garden. The stones were broken up small and carted to, and burnt in, the lime kiln near the entrance gates. They produced 100 bushels of lime, which has been of great value for mixing with the silt from the pond, and for general garden purposes. The lime kiln belongs to Mr. W. I. Cotton, who very kindly allowed us the use of it at a small cost.

Flower Garden.—The main improvement in the flower garden has been doing away with the small terraced bank in front of the bungalow, which was not only unsightly, but required a good deal of labour to keep tidy. It has now been made into one slope at an angle of 45 yards, which carries turf well. The borders and beds were manured and replanted, and a fair show of flowers was kept up till November, when the whole was rearranged, and plants set out for flowering from January on through the Nuwara Eliya season. But the excessively heavy rains which fell in December (33·78 inches) has completely spoiled this design, the majority of the plants being killed right out. Nearly all the beds and borders will have to be replanted. This will of course throw them much later in flowering, and different kinds of plants will have to be put in to fill up. The rain was so heavy and continuous, and the soil of such a nature, that many of the beds for several hours each day, for a month, were under water.

As it is hopeless to get verbenas to thrive anywhere in the body of the garden, on account of the hares, the beds in front of the propagating house were raised with old soil from the potting shed, and formed into eight triangles, the plant used for the divisions being *Dianthus plumarius*, which I find here makes a very good edging plant. Each of the divisions is planted with a different colour, and I trust that, as this bed is continually under observation, we shall succeed this year in growing verbenas successfully.

The rock beds on each side of the steps leading up to the office were considerably raised, and planted with sweet-scented stocks, which did remarkably well, and lasted in flower for a very long time.

Rose Garden.—As it was found that the roots from the privet which formed the hedge round the rose garden were doing much damage to the plants, it was removed in November. The rose plants were thoroughly pruned and manured, and a liberal dressing of lime pointed in. Portulacas and pansies were again planted over the surface of the beds between the plants, and gladiolus bulbs along the centre of the beds.

Although the rose plants flowered very well, especially in June, they made but little growth, and at the close of the year, after the rains, they do not look at all flourishing. However, I trust that when the fine weather comes they will feel the benefit of the treatment given them in November, and make better growth the next season.

Herbaceous Garden.—This garden has been thoroughly set in order, the paths have all been metalled and gravelled, and the turfing of the banks and verges completed. An additional bed for Liliaceous plants has been made. At various times during the year some 560 plants of different sorts were set out in their places in the Orders to which they belong.

A quantity of large labels, 18 in. long, 2¼ in. broad, and ⅞ in. thick, made of seasoned *Eucalyptus globulus* wood, were prepared for naming the Natural Orders. The upper 9 in. of the label received three coats of white paint, and the remaining part was twice dipped in a mixture of boiling linseed oil and powdered coal. We prepared labels in this way three years ago for the rose garden, and up to the present time there is no sign of decay. The names are painted black on the white ground, and are easily read from any of the paths. Seventy-six of these were painted and set out to mark the natural orders represented; 625 of a smaller size were painted and set out to mark the names of the species and varieties.

Rats and Porcupines.—A perfect swarm of rats visited the garden at the beginning of the year. They did considerable damage to seeds and young seedlings. We destroyed large numbers by poison, and by catching them in traps. I caught in one particular spot no less than 55, 30 of these in one month.

The porcupines destroyed nearly the whole of the Dahlia bulbs planted out in the shrubbery, and also a large number of other plants with tuberous roots. None were caught, and they only remained about the garden for a short time.

Visitors.—The number of visitors during the year was 1,170, showing an increase of 159 over that of last year. April again showed the largest number, 215, and June the smallest, 32.

Weather.—The first six days of the year were showery, followed by as many days of fine weather; from then till the 24th it was again showery, the rest of the month being fine.

February was remarkable for its very low night temperature, accompanied by very cold winds. Although the lowest temperature in the garden was 39·0 (on 6th), sharp frosts occurred within a quarter of a mile of the garden gates. The thermometer on grass was fifteen times down to 47·0 or lower—seven times being down to 40·0. The minimum in air was on nine occasions 49·0 or below, once being 45·0, twice 46·0, and twice 47·0. Light showers fell between the 9th and 13th and the 20th and 26th, the rest of this month being very fine.

March was an exceedingly dry month: rain fell on seven days, but it was very light, the total being only 1·21. The days were very bright, the mean amount of cloud for the 37 days being only 3·0. This was the brightest and driest month yet recorded.

April.—Up to the 5th the weather continued hot and dry; from then till the 22nd it rained nearly every day, heavy rain falling on the 5th and 17th. The mornings were generally very fine; the rain scarcely ever beginning to fall before 1 P.M.

May.—All the mornings, with two exceptions, the 24th and 26th, were fine as in April: heavy rain fell on 7th and 8th. It was then fine until the 16th, and from then till the end of the month it was showery, heavy rain falling on the 23rd.

June was cloudy and drizzly throughout, there being only three fine days—the 17th, 23rd, and 26th. But although there was something to measure on 27 days, the total only reached 4·50 inches. This was a very rough month, the wind being strong, or very strong, all through.

July.—Heavy rain fell on the first four days; from then till the end of the month it was fairly fine and dry, the strong winds soon drying up what little rain fell afterwards.

August.—This month was very dry, and with the exception of the 4th, when 1·40 fell, there was but light showers on 11 other days.

September was showery, with strong wind up to the 16th, then fine till 26th, on which day 1·85 fell, accompanied by hail; and a little drizzle fell on the last three days in the afternoon.

October was a very trying month. The close, dull, misty weather with rain on 23 days carried off a good number of seedling plants.

November was also a very wet month. Out of the 23 days on which rain was registered, the 7th, 8th, 17th, 23rd, 28th, and 29 showed the heaviest fall; the total for these 6 days being 8·61.

During December no less than 33·77 inches were registered on 29 days, against 9·03 on 20 days last year. The heaviest fall was 3·90, which fell from 17th to 18th; on 22nd and 23rd 3·81 fell; on 12th and 13th 3·12; and on 12 other days considerably over 1·0 fell, as above noticed. These heavy rains did a great deal of damage to the garden at the time, and many large plants in the lower part have since died from the effects of the bad weather during the last three months of the year.

The total rainfall for the year was 101·91 inches, which fell on 224 days, as shown in the following table:—

1887.	Rainfall.	No. of Days.	1887.	Rainfall.	No. of Days.
January	4·89	16	August	3·32	15
February	3·67	11	September	6·43	20
March	1·21	7	October	10·04	24
April	7·48	19	November	13·40	23
May	8·20	17	December	33·77	29
June	4·45	27			
July	5·05	16	Total	101·91	224

The greatest fall in any twenty-four hours was 3·90, from December 17 to 18, against 3·92 from August 7 to 8 last year.

The average rainfall for the four years 1884-87 is 86·68: the average number of days on which rain fell during the last six years is 217·8; and the average monthly rainfall for four and half years a fraction over 7·29 inches.

The wind was pretty steady from the S.E. until April 25, and was light or moderate in force. It then went round to the N.W. and continued, with few exceptions, in that quarter until September 21. From then till October 5 it blew from S.E. It then blew for nine days from the N.W., and back again to the S.E. until the 28th. From then till the 5th of next month the direction was from N.W., when it settled down to S.E., and continued to blow from that quarter till the end of the year.

It commenced to blow strong on April 28, and was moderate or strong until May 21, when it became very strong until the 26th, and only moderate for the last few days of that month. All through June and July the force was very strong. From then until September 9 it was variable, when it became very strong again for a few days, and then light or moderate till the beginning of November, when it settled down to light, and, with few exceptions, continued to blow lightly until the end of the year.

The greatest pressure per square foot during any twenty-four hours was 5,248 lb., equal to 32·40 miles an hour, on July 4, against 8,333 lb., equal to 40·80 miles an hour, on June 16 last year.

The mean daily horizontal movement of the air for the year was 206·95 miles.

The windiest month was July, with a mean daily horizontal movement of 404·40 miles.

The calmest month was February, with a mean of 106·57 miles.

The barometic pressure and temperature of the air for the year was as follows:—

BAROMETIC PRESSURE. (5,581 ft. elevation.)

1887.	Mean.	Range.
January	24·509	·177
February	24·554	·274
March	24·527	·213
April	24·508	·201
May	24·499	·179
June	24·467	·185
July	24·479	·214
August	24·475	·166
September	24·494	·253
October	24·512	·230
November	24·533	·206
December	24·514	·248
The 12 months	24·506	·340

Highest reading 24·696 on February 15.
Lowest reading 24·356 on July 1.

TEMPERATURE OF THE AIR.

1887.	Mean.	Range.
January	60·9	25·0
February	62·5	27·0
March	66·2	31·5
April	65·3	27·0
May	65·0	24·0
June	61·4	15·0
July	61·9	18·5
August	63·2	21·0
September	63·1	25·5
October	62·3	25·0
November	61·3	22·0
December	59·3	14·0
The 12 months	62·7	32·5

Maximum temperature of air, 77·5, on March 29.
Minimum temperature of air, 45·0, on Jan. 11 and 25 and February 6.

The highest temperature in the sun's rays during the year was 145·0, on March 22, and the lowest on grass was 37·0 on January 11, and March 13.

The mean amount of cloud for the year was 6·4. The cloudiest month was December, with a mean of 9·3, and the brightest was March, with a mean of 3·0.

3.—*Henaratgoda Garden.*

This Garden has been maintained in good condition during the year, and the plants under cultivation are mostly doing well. Notices of several will be found under their names in section 8 of this report. The Garden suffered somewhat from dry weather in the early part of the year and in September, and generally from want of manure.

Over 3,000 pods of Cacao were sent out gratis to Government officials for distribution to the native villagers. A good many pods, when young, were devoured by squirrels and wild cats, and 179 of the former and 3 of the latter were shot by the conductor.

The road of approach to the Garden has been altered and improved by the clearance of a good deal of scrubby jungle. The wooden bridge at the commencement of the road is undergoing repair by the Public Works Department, and brick pillars have been set up at the entrance, where it is intended to put up gates.

Several new flower beds have been laid out, and a number of new Palms and ornamental trees planted. *Tabernæmontana crassa*, introduced here in 1881 as a rubber-yielding plant, has now formed a very ornamental flowering tree with large sweet-scented blossoms. It is 22 ft. high, but has not as yet produced seed.

4.—*Anurádhapura Garden.*

The past year has exhibited the climate of the North-Central Province at its worst, and the Garden has suffered severely from the extremes of drought and flood. Though the total rainfall for the year, 67·03 in., is 12·47 more than the average annual fall, yet from the middle of April till the end of September scarcely a drop of rain fell: the small pond in the Garden quickly dried up, the water in Tissawewa became at length completely exhausted, and for the latter part of the period no water at all could be obtained. I regret to have to report that a large number of the plants reared with so much care during the past few years died during this time, including Tea, Coca, Pepper, Croton-oil, Cinnamon, Cassia Bark, Sapan, Teak, Panama Rubber, China Bamboo, Grevillea robusta, Rambutan, Nam-nam, and Avocado Pear, besides a great number of ornamental species. Among the plants that were able to live through the drought were, Cocoanut, Jak, Breadfruit, Papaw, Mango, Soursop, Wampi, all the Orange kind, Plantain, Arecanut, Annatto, Surinam Quassia, Cotton, Ceara Rubber, and Rain-tree; the Liberian Coffee bushes suffered a good deal, but have mostly survived. This severe drought was followed by very heavy and continuous rain, which in December, amounted to a deluge, no less than 26·55 in. falling in that month, and over 6 in. on one day, the 21st. Parts of the garden were now submerged, and a number of young plants sent from Pórádeniya to supply the losses caused by the drought were killed. A great effort, however, has been made to renew the Garden, and much fresh planting has been done. It may be confidently hoped that such a complete

failure of water in Tissa tank will not occur again, now that the Yóda-ęla channel from Kaláwęwa is in working order.

During this disastrous season the native Conductor has worked well, though he has suffered from fever, and is naturally somewhat disheartened at the failure of so much of his cultivation. He deserves full credit for his perseverance under these trying circumstances. Our small force of labour is almost wholly occupied in watering, and is not sufficient to allow of proper cultivation. We have had, however, as usual, the help of a small Provincial vote, without which it would have been impossible to carry on the ordinary upkeep.

Somewhat more inclination is being shown by the people to cultivate food plants, and there has been a better demand for Jak, Plantain, Arecanut, Mango, Lime, and Orange plants. But objection is raised even to the trifling prices charged, and a free gift seems to be expected.

5.—*Badulla Garden.*

Progress here is necessarily slow, but I think as much has been made as unfavourable circumstances allow. It has not been found possible this year to afford us prison labour to any extent, and our few coolies can do little more than keep up the small portion of the Garden under cultivation. The ridges of the old paddy fields are, however, now almost wholly effaced, and several new paths have been made or planned out, but the multitude of weeds and coarse grasses on the land will give much trouble for some years to come. A low bank has been thrown up round the whole circumference of the ground, and a hedge of Madras thorn planted on the top as a protection against the incursions of the cattle which graze on the neighbouring race-course.

At the request of the Government Agent I have taken over as a portion of the Garden a narrow strip of land adjoining its western boundary. On an inspection of the ground I find it will be difficult to actually include this in the Garden fence, but it can be kept up as an approach to the entrance and planted with shade-giving trees. It is intended to set up gates at either end of the carriage drive during the year.

The Garden is much exposed, and soon begins to suffer in dry weather. Our water-supply is obtained from an irrigation channel supplying paddy fields above, and in time of drought the cultivators are inclined to stop our supply. It has, however, now I believe been made distinctly understood by the parties concerned, that, as was arranged when the site was fixed upon, the Government Garden has a claim to a share of the water from this source at all times.

Large quantities of plants, cuttings, and seeds have been forwarded by cart, coolies, and post from Pérádeniya towards stocking the Garden, but much more in this way has to be done before much show can be made. White ants are very abundant, and have worked destruction in the nurseries and devoured nearly all the stock of bamboo pots. But most of the plants put out are doing well, and many young trees have made very good growth, especially *Cedrela odorata*, *Albizzia moluccana*, *Prosopis glandulosa*, Divi-divi, Loquat, &c. *Erythroxyon Coca* is fruiting freely.

Several varieties of Tobacco have been grown for seed—Brazilian, Virginian, Havana, Sumatra, and Manila, and a large crop of each sort, except of Manila, was produced and carefully collected. The Havana variety appeared to suit the locality best. There has been some demand for seed, and over 60 oz. have been disposed of to planters and others.

The rainfall for the year was 93·89 in., being 15·58 in. more than the average; but of this no less than 41·67 in. fell in December.

6.—*Interchange of Plants and Seeds.*

Though our relations with other botanical establishments are maintained, I find it increasingly difficult to obtain seeds and plants of interest additional to those we already possess. Many of those I am most desirous to acquire are liable to lose vitality or to succumb to adverse influences during transit, and arrive dead. Disappointments of this kind during the past year have been unusually large. The recent publication of a Catalogue of the contents of the Gardens will, it is expected, by showing clearly what we possess, result in the acquisition from other countries of many of our desiderata.

Eighteen Wardian cases and boxes of living plants have been received during the year from the Botanic Gardens of Kew, Calcutta, Singapore (7), Bangalore and Penang; from Sir J. Thurston, Fiji, Sir H. Low, Perak (2), Captain Maclear R.N., and Messrs. Veitch (2) and Bull of London.

Packets of seeds have been contributed by the Botanic Gardens of Kew, Cambridge, Berlin, Madras, Bangalore, Saharunpore, Singapore, Penang, Hongkong, Melbourne, British Guiana, and Buitenzorg (Java); from Baron von Mueller, Melbourne, E. M. Holmes, F.L.S., London, B. Clarke, F.L.S., London, M. H. Starling, Esq., Bombay, F. S. James Esq., Japan, the Assistant Conservator of Forests, Coconada, Messrs. P. Smith of Hamburg, and Messrs. Reasoner of Florida.

Our thanks are also due to the following donors in the Colony:—Mrs. Baker, Miss Bevers, Mrs. Grinlinton, Mrs. Jeffries, Mrs. Mackwood, Mrs. Wiggin, Captain Bayley, and Messrs. J. H. Barber, W. D. Bosanquet, D. F. Browne, J. A. Burmester, W. I. Cotton, S. Fielder, R. S. Fraser, R. B. Hector, L. D. Henry, T. C. Huxley, J. D. Jonklaas, A. J. Kellow, A. C. Laurie, D.J., C. J. R. Le Meseurier, C.C.S., W. M. Mayes, W. P. Metcalfe, H. Nevill, C.C.S., G. C. R. Norman, R. H. Roope, J. A. Rossiter, A. B. Scott, J. Sinclair, P. A. Templer, C.C.S., E. J. Thwaites, W. H. Walters, A. Whyte, J. Wickwar, J. F. Wingate, W. G. Wood, W. H. Wright, and Messrs. William Bros.

During the year there have been sent from the gardens in exchange sixteen Wardian cases and boxes of live plants, to the following:—The Botanic Gardens of Kew (3), Cambridge, Singapore (4), Penang, Hongkong, and Buitenzorg; to Sir H. Low, Perak, to Sir J. Thurston, Fiji, to Messrs. Weigandt Dusseldorf, and to Messrs. Bull and Messrs. Veitch, London.

The Gardens have sent packets of seeds, &c., to the following places and persons in exchange:—The Botanic Gardens of Kew, Cambridge, Ootacamund, Bangalore, Rangoon, Hongkong, Buitenzorg, Natal, Jamaica, Trinidad, and British Guiana; to the Victoria Gardens, Bombay, Baron von Mueller, Melbourne, Sir J. Thurston, Fiji, Sir H. Low, Perak, Messrs. Veitch, London, and Messrs. Reasoner, Florida.

The customary *gratis* supply of useful and ornamental plants to public places and persons in the Colony has been made on application as follows:—To the Government Agents and their Assistants at Galle, Badulla, Kalutara, Mátalé, Kégalla, Hambantota, and Haldummulla; the Public Works Department, Colombo; the Colombo Municipality; the Colombo Museum; the Pavilion, Kandy; the Nuwara Eliya Local Board; the Superintendents of Police, Colombo and Galle; the Engineers' Quarters, Kandy; the Medical Officers, Lunugala and Deltota; the resthouse grounds at Wilson's Bungalow, Horton Plains, and Anurádhapura; the Stationmasters of Mátalé, Rambukkana, Hatton, and Kotagala; and the Rev. J. Langdon's Industrial School at Haputalé.

I have to express my obligations to the Agents of the great Steamship Companies, the P. & O. and the British India, for their continued assistance in carrying free of freight to or from Colombo Wardian cases passing between Pérádeniya and the other Botanical establishments of the Empire.

7.—*Principal Additions to the Collections.*

The following lists are in continuation of those in former years.

As regards the first one, it is somewhat less extensive than those recently given, for the reason above noticed. It contains only those foreign species which, there is reason to think, are fairly established here. As my recently published catalogue of Pérádeniya Gardens is brought up to the end of the year 1886, this list may be regarded as the first annual supplement to it.

In addition to the plants entered we have received many plants from Perak which remain to be determined, and a number of florists' flowers from various sources, including roses and garden varieties of the genera Begonia, Ixora, Coleus, Gloxinia, Gesnera, Tydæa, Maranta, Dieffenbachia, and Adiantum.

For the extensive Hakgala list I am indebted to Mr. Nock. The collection in the hill garden is rapidly increasing, and a critical examination of its actual contents, with a view to drawing up an accurate list, will be soon necessary.

(*a*)—*Pérádeniya, &c., Gardens.*

DICOTYLEDONS.

Schizandra marmorata. (Kew.)
Garcinia pseudo-guttifera, Seem. Fiji. (Fiji.)
Gossypium religiosum, L. Pacific Islands. (Reasoner.) This species is not cultivated for cotton.
Soymida febrifuga, Juss. Central & S. India. The "Rohun" tree; affords an excellent timber and a bitter tonic bark, which is official in the Indian Pharmacopœia. (J. Battie, Coconada.)
Ampelopsis quinquefolia, Mich. N. America. The "Virginian creeper." (Penang.)
Pistacia Lentiscus, L. The Lentisk or Mastic Tree. Mediterranean, Syria, E. Trop. Africa. Affords Mastic Resin. (Director.)
Cupania grandidens, Hort. Bull. Zanzibar. (Bull.)
Pachyrrhizus, sp. ("Dolichos tuberosus.") (Kew.) See notes, section 8.
Cæsalpinia ferruginea, Dcne. Timor. (Brit. Guiana.)
Entada polystachya, DC. Trop. S. America. (Kew.)
Eugenia axillaris. (Kew.)
Begonia albo-picta, Hort. Bull. Brazil. (Bull.)
Eryngium ebracteatum, Lam. S. Brazil. (Bull.)
Nyssa sylvatica, Marsh. "Pepperidge Tree." S. United States. (Reasoner.)
Uncaria Gambier, Roxb. Malay Pen., Sumatra, Java. The source of the Gambier of commerce. (Singapore.) See notes, section 8.
Vangueria velutina, Hiern. E. Trop. Africa. (Kew.)
Cephaelis Behrii. (Kew.)
Rhododendron multicolor, Miq. Sumatra. Figured in Bot. Mag. t. 6767. (Penang.)
Jacquinia armillaris, Jacq. W. Indies, Florida, Venezuela. (Reasoner.)
Imbricaria coriacea, DC. (*Labramia ?*) Madagascar. (Kew.)
Dipladenia Elliotii. (Veitch.)
D. insignis. (Veitch.)
Hoya globulosa. (Bull.)
Fagræa imperialis, Miq. Sumatra. (Buitenzorg.)
Mina lobata, LL. & Lex., Mexico. (T. C. Huxley.)
Ipomœa dasysperma, Jacq. India, cult. (Reasoner.)
Lettsomia Chalmersii. (Hongkong.)
Gesnera Douglasii. (Bull.)
Æschynanthus grandiflora, Spreng. Khasia. (Veitch.)
Æ. Lobbiana, Hook. Malacca, Borneo. (Veitch.)
Bignonia regalis, Hort. Bull. Brit. Guiana. (Bull.)
Ruellia (*Dipteracanthus*) *macrantha*, (Nees.) Brazil. (Veitch.)
Dædalacanthus macrophyllus, T. And. (*Eranthemum*, Wall.) Burma. (Bull.)
Triplaris surinamensis, Cham. Trop. S. America. (Brit. Guiana.)
Piper methysticum, Forst. Pacific Islands, cult. The "Yagona" or "Kawa" plant, from which an intoxicating beverage is prepared. (Fiji.)
P. ornatum. (Kew.)
Phyllanthus, sp. "with white berries." (Hongkong.)
Hevea Spruceana, Mull. Arg. The "Hatie" Rubber tree. British Guiana, Brazil. (Kew.) See notes, section 8.
Joannesia princeps, Vell. (*Anda Gomesii*, Juss.) Brazil. (Bangalore.)
Sapium biglandulosum, Mull. Arg. Trop. America. (Brit. Guiana.) See notes, section 8.
Antiaris Bennettii, Seem. Pacific Islands. (Fiji.)
Zamia integrifolia, Ait. Florida, W. Indies. (Reasoner.)

MONOCOTYLEDONS.

Orchids.

Dendrobium Ainsworthii (hybrid, *A. nobile* × *A. aureum*). (Veitch.)
D. superbum, Rchb. f. Manilla. (Singapore.)
Cœlogyne elata, Lindl. Nepal, Sikkim. (Calcutta.)
C. Cumingii, Lindl. Singapore. (Singapore.)
C. testacea, Lindl. Singapore. (Singapore.)
Calanthe Dominii (hybrid, *C. masuca* × *furcata*.) (Bull.)
Cattleya Laurenciana. (Bull.)
C. Mendelii, Backh. Columbia. (Veitch.)
C. Skinneri, Batem., var. *oculata*. Guatemala. (Bull.)
Oncidium Papilio, L., var. *majus*. Cent. America, Trinidad. (Bull.)
O. roseum, Lodd. Honduras. (Bull.)
O. Wentworthianum, Batem. Guatemala. (Bull.)
Miltonia Clowesii, Rchb. f. Brazil. (Veitch.)
M. cuneata, Lindl. Brazil ? (Veitch.)
Arachnanthe Lowii, Benth. (*Vanda*, Lindl.) Borneo. (Singapore.)
Aerides Sanderianum. (Singapore.)
A. virens, Lindl. Java. (Singapore.)
Vanda Hookeriana, Rchb. f. Borneo. (Singapore.)
V. lamellata, Lindl., var. *Boxalii*. Philippines. (Singapore.)
V. Sanderiana, Rchb. f. Philippine Is. (Singapore.)
Angræcum eburneum, Thouars. Madagascar. (Bull.)
Cypripedium caudatum, Lindl. Peru. (Veitch.)
C. hirsutissimum, Lindl. Assam, &c. (Veitch.)
C. Lowii, Lindl. Borneo. (Singapore.)
C. philippinense, Rchb. f. (*lævigatum*, Batem.) Philippine Is. (Veitch.)
C. villosum, Lindl. Burma, Bhotan. (Bull.)

Canna flaccida, Rosc. S. United States. (Reasoner.)
Crinum formosum, Hort. (Bull.)
Eucharis Mastersii, Baker. New Grenada. (Bull.)

Palms.

Kentia costata, Becc. New Guinea. (Buitenzorg.)
Veitchia Storckii, Wendl. Fiji Islands. (Fiji.)
Ptychosperma disticha, Miq. Sumatra. (Buitenzorg.)
P. perbreve, Wendl. Fiji Islands. (Fiji.)
Caryota, sp. Sumatra. (Buitenzorg.)
C., sp. New Britain. (Fiji.)
Manicaria saccifera, Gaertn. Bussu Palm. Central America. (Brit. Guiana.)
Serenæa serrulata, Hook. f. Florida. (Reasoner.)
Erythea armata, S. Wats. S. California. (Kew.)
Pritchardia Thurstoni, Drude & T. M. Fiji Islands. (Fiji.)
Licuala amplifrons, Miq. Sumatra. (Buitenzorg.)
L. acutifida, Mast. Singapore, Penang. The "Penang Lawyer" walking-sticks are made from this palm. (Penang.)
L. grandis, Wendl. (*Pritchardia*, Hort.) Pacific Islands. A very beautiful palm, figured in Bot. Mag. t. 6704. (Fiji.)
Calamus, ssp. 2. (Penang.)

Alocasia Sedeni (hybrid, *A cuprea* × *Lowii*). (Veitch.)
A. Sanderiana. Eastern Archipelago. (Bull.)
Philodendron nobile. S. America. (Bull.)
Nephthytis picturata. W. Trop. Africa. (Bull.)
Schismatoglottis decora. Borneo. (Bull.)
Rhaphidophora vitiensis, Schott. Fiji Islands and New Hebrides. (Fiji.)
Pothos argenteus. Borneo. (Bull.)
P. flexuosus. "India." (Bull.)
P. nitens. Eastern Archipelago. (Bull.)
Cyperus alterniflorus, L. Madagascar. (Veitch.)
Eragrostis abyssinica, Link. Abyssinia, cult. as a cereal and called "Teff." (Kew.) See notes, section 8.

(*b*)—*Hakgala Garden.*

DICOTYLEDONS.

Clematis Vitalba, L. Europe. (Kew.)
Thalictrum angustifolium, Jacq. Europe. (Cambridge.)
Aquilegia glandulosa, F. & M. E. Europe. (Cambridge.)
A. formosa, Fisch. California. (Cambridge.)
A. Skinneri. (Queen's Cottage.)
A. chrysantha, A. Gray. N. America. (Cambridge.)
Delphinium speciosum, Bieb. Caucasus. (Cambridge.)
D. grandiflorum, L. N. Asia. (Cambridge.)
Pæonia, sp. (Japan.)
Berberis violacea, Poit. (Kew.)
Menispermum canadense, L. N. America. (Kew.)

Cardamine impatiens, L. Europe. (Cambridge.)
Erysimum Peroffskianum, F. & M. Caucasus. (Mrs. Baker.)
Alyssum argenteum, Vitm. S. Europe. (Cambridge.)
Sisymbrium orientale, L. S. Europe. (Cambridge.).
Cistus villosus, L. Mediterranean. (Kew.)
C. laurifolius, L. Spain. (Kew.)
C. creticus, L. Mediterranean. (Cambridge.)
Helianthemum polifolium, Pers. Europe. (Kew.)
H. canescens, Sweet. Europe. (Kew.)
Gypsophila paniculata, L. Siberia. (Kew.)
Saponaria Vaccaria, L. Europe. (Kew.)
Silene muscipula, L. S. Europe. (Kew.)
S. Saxifraga, L. Europe. (Cambridge.)
Lychnis Flos-cuculi, L. Europe. (Cambridge.)
L. Haageana, Lem. (J. Gray.)
L. Viscaria, L. S. Europe. (Cambridge.)
Tunica Saxifraga, Scop. Europe. (Kew.)
Claytonia perfoliata, Don. N. America. (Cambridge.)
Hypericum balearicum, L. Corsica. (Kew.)
H. hircinum, L. Mediterranean. (Kew.)
H. calycinum, L. Europe. (Cambridge.)
H. perforatum, L. Europe. (Kew.)
H. orientale, L. Orient. (Kew.)
H. elatum, Ait. N. America. (Kew.)
H. Androsæmum, L. Europe. (Kew.)
Malva crispa, L. Europe. (Kew.)
M. verticillata, L. China. (Kew.)
Lavatera Olbia, L. S. Europe. (Kew.)
Kitaibelia vitifolia, Willd. Hungary. (Kew.)
Callirhœ pedata, Gray. N. America. (Kew.)
Sparmannia africana, L. f. Cape. (T. Hanbury.)
Geranium Robertianum, L. Europe. (Cambridge.)
G. sanguineum, L. Europe. (Kew.)
G. Wallichianum, Sweet. Nepal. (Kew.)
G. pratense, L. Europe. (Kew.)
G. striatum, L. Italy. (Kew.)
Oxalis, sp. (A. Whyte.)
Boronia, sp. (A. C. Lawrie.)
Ptelea trifoliata, L. N. America. (Kew.)
Rhamnus infectorius, L. Mediterranean. (Kew.)
Rhus typhina, L. N. America. (Kew.)
R. Cotinus, Lin. S. Europe. (Kew.)
Brachysema lanceolata, Meissn. W. Australia. (Melbourne.)
Chorizema cordata, Lindl. W. Australia. (Melbourne.)
Templetonia retusa, R. Br. S. Australia. (Melbourne.)
Dalea lagopus, Willd. Mexico. (Kew.)
Lupinus subcarnosus, Hook. California. (Mrs. Baker.)
L. atroviolaceus. (Mrs. Baker.)
Cytisus falcatus, W. K. S. & E. Europe. (Kew.)
C. elongatus, W. K. E. Europe. (Kew.)
Lotus Jacobæus, L. (L. B. Henry.)
Melilotus alba, Lam. Europe. (Cambridge.)
Hedysarum coronarium, L. S. Europe. (Mrs. Grinlinton.)
Caragana arborescens, Lam. Siberia. (Kew.)
Amorpha fruticosa, L. Carolina. (Kew.)
A. Lewisii, Lobb. N. America. (Kew.)
Calophace wolgarica, Fisch. Siberia. (Kew.)
Vicia gigantea, Bunge. China. (Kew.)
Lathyrus tuberosus, L. Europe. (Kew.)
L. variegatus, B. & H. Pyrenees. (Kew.)
Robinia Pseudacacia, L. N. America. (Kew.)
Piptanthus nepalensis, D. Don. Himalaya. (Kew.)
Rubus leucostachys, Schlecht. Europe. (Kew.)
R. cordifolius, Weihe. Germany. (Kew.)
R. Colemani, Blox. England. (Kew.)
R. thyrsoideus, Weihe. Europe. (Kew.)
R. mucronatus, Bor. Europe. (Kew.)
R. Idæus. "Raspberry," vars. "Falstaff" and "Carter's prolific." (F. C. Loos.)
Spiræa Lindleyana, Wall. China, &c. (Cambridge and Kew.)
S. callosa, Thunb. Japan. (Cambridge.)
S. Douglasii, Hook. N. America. (Kew.)
S. japonica, Siebold. Japan. (S. Fielder.)
S. splendens. (Kew.)
S. Ulmaria, L. "Meadow Sweet." Europe. (Kew.)
Neillia opulifolia, B. & H. f., var. *aurea*. N. America. (Kew.)
Rosa Brunonii, Lindl. Himalaya. (Kew.)
R. sericea, Lindl. China, N. India. (Kew.)
R. carolina, L. N. America. (Kew.)
R. rubiginosa, L., *major*. Europe. (Kew.)
R. lucida, Ehrh. N. America. (Kew.)

R. Fendleri. (Kew.)
R. hibernica, Sw. Ireland. (Kew.)
Cotoneaster acuminata, Lindl. Himalaya. (Kew.)
C. bacillaris, Wall. Himalaya, & var. *floribunda.* (Kew.)
C. buxifolia, Wall. S. India. (Kew.)
C. frigida, Wall. Nepal. (Kew.)
C. Simmodsii, Hort. Khasia? (Kew.)
Hydrangea arborescens, L. N. America. (Kew.)
Francoa ramosa, Cav. Chili. (Kew.)
Deutzia californica, Benth. California. (Kew.)
D. scabra, Thunb. Japan. (Kew.)
D. crenata, var. *Sieboldii*, Hook. Himalayas. (Kew.)
Ribes Grossularia, L. "Gooseberry." N. Europe. (W. I. Cotton and F. C. Loos.)
R. nigrum, L. "Black Currant." Europe. (F. C. Loos.)
R. rubrum, L. "Red and White Currant." Europe. (F. C. Loos.)
R. alpinum, L. Europe. (Kew.)
R. glutinosum, Benth. N. America. (Kew.)
Sedum album, L. S. Europe. (Kew.)
S. Wallichianum, Hk. Himalaya. (Kew.)
S. stoloniferum, Gmel. W. Asia. (Cambridge.)
Echeveria secunda, Ker, var. "Peacock." Mexico. (F. C. Loos.)
Œnothera amœna, Lehm. California. (Kew.)
Œ. rosea, Ait. Mexico. (Kew.)
Cuphea Zimapani, Roezl. Mexico. (Kew.)
C. lanceolata, Ait. Mexico. (Kew.)
Passiflora, sp. ("Constance Elliot.") (Kew.)
Vasconcellia hastæfolia (Hanbury.)
Eryngium amethystinum, L. S. Europe. (Kew.)
E. giganteum, M. B. Caucasus. (Kew.)
Ferula Ferulago, L. Mediterranean. (Kew.)
Aucuba japonica, var. *maculata*, Th. Japan. (W. H. Wright.)
Weigelia amabilis, Thunb. China. (Kew.)
Lonicera xylosteum, L. Europe. (Kew.)
Bouvardia, sp., vars. "Dazzle" and "President Garfield." (Kew.)
Dipsacus laciniata, L. S. Europe. (Cambridge.)
D. sylvestris, L., var. *Fullonum.* "Fullers' Teazle." (Kew.)
Scabiosa sylvatica, L. Europe. (Kew.)
Baccharis halimifolia, L. Virginia. (Kew.)
Aster Amellus, L. Europe. (Cambridge.)
A. Novi-Belgii, L. U. States. (Kew.)
A. lævis, L. N. America. (Cambridge.)
A. Tradescanti. N. America. (Kew.)
Helipterum Manglesii, Benth. Australia. (Kew.)
Rudbeckia laciniata, L. U. S. America. (Kew.)
Helianthus globosus, fistulosus. (Queen's Cottage.)
H. giganteus, L. U. S. America. (Kew.)
Coreopsis Drummondii, Torr. et Gr. (Cambridge.)
Tagetes glandulifera, Schrank. S. America. (Kew.)
T. signata, Bartl. Mexico. (Cambridge.)
Chrysanthemum segetum, L. Europe. (T. N. Christie.)
Cineraria acanthifolia, Reichb. S. Europe. (Mrs. Baker.)
Arnica Chamissonis, L. N. W. America. (Kew and Cambridge.)
Stobæa purpurea, DC. Cape. (Kew.)
Xeranthemum annuum, L. Europe. (Mrs. Baker.)
Scolymus hispanicus, L. S. Europe. (Kew.)
Onopordon Acanthium. L. Europe. (Kew.)
Hieracium aurantiacum, L. Europe. (Kew.)
H. umbellatum, L. Europe. (Kew.)
Arctium majus, Schk. Europe. (B. Clarke.)
Var. *japonica*, "Gobo." Japan. (B. Clarke.)
Carthamus lanatus, Bth. S. Europe. (Kew.)
Crepis rubra, L. S. Europe. (Kew.)
Lobelia cardinalis, var. Queen Victoria. (L. D. Henry.)
Campanula calycantha, and var. *alba.* (Mrs. Baker.)
C. persicifolia, L., var. *maxima.* Europe. (Kew.)
Erica barbata, Andr. Cape. (Hanbury.)
Statice Bonduellii, Lest. Algeria. (Cambridge.)
S. rosea, Sm. S. Africa. (Kew.)
Lysimachia Ephemerum, L. France. (Cambridge.)
Ligustrum vulgare, L. Europe. "Privet." (Kew.)
Hoya, sp. (E. J. Thwaites.)
Gentiana cruciata, L. Europe. (Cambridge.)
Nemophila insignis, Benth. California. (Kew and E. J. Thwaites.)
Wigandia Vigieri, Hort. (Hanbury.)
W. magnifica, Hort. (Hanbury.)
Phacelia Whitlavia, Gr. California. (Kew.)
Cynoglossum officinale, L. Europe. (Kew.)
Omphalodes linifolia, Mœnch. S. Europe. (Kew.)
Ipomœa purpurea, Lam. N. America. (Kew.)
Convolvulus tricolor, L. S. Europe. (Kew.)

Nolana atriplicifolia, D. Don. Peru. (Kew.)
Nicotiana longifolia, Cav. B. Ayres. (Kew.)
N. rustica, L. S. America. (Kew.)
N. fragrans, Bernh. (Kew.)
Verbascum phœniceum, L. Europe. (Cambridge.)
V. pyramidatum, Bieb. Caucasus. (Kew.)
V. Blattaria, L. Europe. (Cambridge.)
Linaria Cymbalaria, Willd. Europe. (A. J. Kellow.)
Veronica Teucrium, L. S. Europe. (Kew.)
Eccremocarpus scaber, R. et P. (Cambridge.)
Salvia tiliæfolia, Vahl. Trop. America. (Kew.)
Dracocephalum peregrinum, Lin. Siberia. (Cambridge.)
Scutellaria Columnæ, All. Mediterranean. (Cambridge.)
Stachys lanata, Jacq. Orient. (Cambridge.)
Nepeta Cataria, L. Europe. (Cambridge.)
Plantago acanthophylla, Dcne. Spain. (Cambridge.)
Rumex spiciforme, Royle. India. (Kew.)
Amaranthus chlorostachys, Willd. Europe. (Kew.)
Atriplex hortensis, L. Siberia. (Cambridge.)
Elæagnus japonica. (Kew.)
Shepherdia argentea, Nutt. S. United States. (Kew)
Humulus japonica, S. & Z. Japan, S. China. (Kew.)
Alnus autumnalis, Hort. N. America. (Kew.)
Salix tetrasperma, Roxb. India. (E. J. Thwaites.)
Thuja canadensis. (Hanbury.)
Pinus monophylla, Torr. "Nut Pine." California. (Kew.)
Abies polita, S. & Z. Japan. (Japan.)
A. concolor, Lindl. New Mexico. (Hanbury.)
A. grandis, Doug. California. (Hanbury.)
A. pectinata, DC. "Silver Fir." Europe. (Hanbury.)
A. amabilis, Doug. N. America. (Hanbury.)
A. Douglasii, Lond. N. America. (Hanbury.)
A. excelsa, Poir. "Spruce Fir." Europe. (Hanbury.)
A. alba, Poir. N. America. (Hanbury.)
Chamæcyparis pisifera, Sieb. & Zucc. Japan. (Japan.)
Sequoia (*Wellingtonia*) *gigantea*, Toey. California. (Hanbury.)
S. sempervirens, Endl. "Red Wood." California. (Hanbury.)
Taxodium distichum, Rich. Florida. (Hanbury.)
Cedrus atlantica, Manett. Algeria. (Hanbury.)
C. Libani, Loud. Cedar. Asia Minor. (Hanbury.)

MONOCOTYLEDONS.

Cattleya chocoensis. (Kew.)
C. Trianæ, Lindl. & Rchb. f. New Grenada. (Kew.)
Furcræa longæva, Karw. & Zucc. Mexico. (Kew.)
Alstrœmeria hæmantha, R. & P. Chili. (Kew.)
Trachycarpus Fortunei, Hook. China. (Hongkong.)
T. Martianus, Wendl. Himalaya. (Kew.)
Yucca macrocarpa. (Kew.)
Scilla campanulata, Ait. Spain. (A. Whyte.)
Ornithogalum umbellatum, L. Europe. (Kew.)
Asphodelus albus, Willd. Europe. (Kew.)
A. luteus, L. Europe. (Cambridge.)
A. ramosus, L. S. Europe. (Kew.)
Littonia modesta, Hook. Natal. (A. Whyte.)
Ruscus androgynus, L. Canary Is. (Kew.)
Cordyline Baueri, Hk. f. Norfolk Is. (Kew.)
C. superbiens, K. Koch. Norfolk Is. (Kew.)
C. australis, Hk. f. New Zealand. (Kew.)
Tradescantia erecta, Jacq. Mexico. (Kew.)
Carex pendula, Huds. Europe. (Kew.)
Eragrostis abyssinia, Link. "Teff." Abyssinia. (Kew.)

FERNS.

Alsophila tomentosa, Hk. ? Formosa. (Captain F. Bayley.)
A. sp. (W. H. Wright.)

And many Florists' flowers, including varieties of Camellia, Pelargonium, Roses, Begonia, Asters, Rhododendron, Primula, Calceolaria, Mimulus, Narcissus, and Tulips from various donors, whose names are enumerated above.

8.—*Notes on Economic Plants and Products.*

Tea.—The cultivation and manufacture of tea have now fairly attained the position of the leading planting industry of this Colony. It is estimated that little under 180,000 acres are now occupied with this culture, and the exports during the last financial year reached a total of over twelve million pounds (12,013,686 lb.), the average price realised being close upon 1*s.* 1*d.* per lb. The

planting of tea still goes on in all parts and at all elevations of the Colony where the rainfall is sufficient; and even in the Uva districts considerable areas are now cropped with this hardy shrub.

In connection with this industry the question of fuel must shortly become one of pressing importance in several districts. I made a few remarks on this subject in my report for 1883 (see page 10), and am not able to add much to them. For the higher elevations the Australian Wattle-acacias are unrivalled. As an example of their remarkably rapid growth, that of the silver-wattle (*A. dealbata*) at Hakgala may be noticed. Trees of this, six years from seed, are 51 ft. in height, with stems over 4 ft. in circumference at the base. The tendency of this species to send up numerous suckers is of course much in its favour as a fuel-producer, but necessitates a plantation apart from other cultivations. Of trees of a more valuable character we have endeavoured to meet a very large demand for seed of *Cedrela Toona*, *Grevillea robusta*, and the native *Albizzia stipulata*, and have been able to supply many hundred ounces from the trees in Pérádeniya. The *Grevillea* seems the most generally suitable. Toon, with its beautiful wood probably unrivalled for tea-boxes, is really too good to grow for fuel. At medium elevations a very common weedy little tree (*Trema orientalis*), the "Gedumba" of the natives and the "Charcoal Tree" of the English, may be recommended, as it will grow vigorously on the very worst and most stony land.

It is with unalloyed satisfaction that all who wish well to the Sinhalese must see that a real beginning has been made in inducing them to work as daily labourers on the tea-estates. Managers are gladly employing this Sinhalese labour where they can obtain it, and in some cases are paying something above the usual rate of cooly wages as an inducement; the work is light, easy, and constant throughout the year. In the general interest of the country it is greatly to be hoped that everything will be done by those who have authority over, and influence with, the impoverished villagers to help them to overcome their prejudices and accept this regular work now offered to them.

The success of tea-growing in Ceylon is leading many other countries to attempt its cultivation, and we have lately sent a supply of seed to New Zealand, where the experiment is being conducted by the Chief Conservator of Forests, on both the east and west coasts of the Northern Island. The plant is doubtless capable of culture under a very wide range of climatic conditions, but the success of tea-cultivation anywhere as a commercial speculation depends entirely on the cost of production, and mainly on the rate of wages for labour.

Coffee.—With an export which has dwindled down to 180,429 cwt. in the past year, it would really appear as though this cultivation, so long associated with Ceylon, were destined to become one of quite secondary importance to the Colony. This further great decrease is due to continued diminution of area, and this has gone on in spite of the high prices for coffee ruling in the market.

But in addition to other trials coffee has suffered severely during the last two or three years from the attacks of a scale-insect or "bug," which has in some places occurred in such vast quantities as to have actually killed out the bushes, probably already deteriorated by long-continued attacks of leaf-disease and by imperfect cultivation. The presence of this pest has no doubt largely helped forward the abandonment of coffee-cultivation in favour of tea.

It seems the general opinion of practical planters that this insect is different from either of the "bugs" familiar to them hitherto as foes to coffee—*Lecanium Coffeæ*, the ordinary brown coffee bug, and *L. nigrum*, the black bug. It is, however, undoubtedly very nearly allied to the latter. The distinctions between the three kinds have been well pointed out by Mr. E. E. Green, of Pundalu-oya, in a paper illustrated with coloured figures, which has been printed by Government. He names the new pest—which is generally known as "green-bug"—*Lecanium viride*, and thinks it a distinct species. I may add that it is by no means confined to coffee, and that I have for several years noticed it in the Botanic Gardens, where it occurs commonly along with other kinds of *Coccidæ* on a great variety of plants with persistent leaves. It is accompanied, like the other species, by a black fungus; and as in their case, no efficacious remedy has been found for its ravages.

In spite of all drawbacks, I am still of opinion that coffee, at all events as a native cultivation, is still worth encouragement. Liberian is the best sort for growing in small gardens; and sold locally at present prices gives a good return to the cultivator. A large stock of this kind is always available at Henaratgoda Garden.

Cinchona.—It is astonishing to find that an enormous export of bark has been still kept up in spite of the very low prices obtained. Considerably over fourteen million pounds (14,389,184 lb.) have been shipped from Ceylon in the past year, yet the unit of quinine has been even as low as 1½*d.* at one time, and much of the bark sold could barely have paid expenses. This quantity is however less by nearly a million pounds than that sent home in 1886, and it may be confidently expected that the export from Ceylon will now rapidly fall. The history of this industry in Ceylon, however unsatisfactory, has been most instructive, and has fully shown the truth of what was so strongly insisted upon from the first by those who looked ahead, that quality and not quantity was the object to be aimed at by the grower. This more far-seeing policy has been followed in Java, and we may now soon expect to see large supplies of rich bark coming from that country.

Some seed of *Remijia pedunculata*, one of the "Cuprea" barks, was received from Kew in April, but I regret to say none of it germinated.

Cacao.—A very moderate extension only of this cultivation is now going on, and the export of the past financial year shows an advance of only 3,000 cwt. (16,638 cwt.) over the year before.

We are still endeavouring to spread this cultivation among the villagers, and a large distribution of seed was made, especially in Mátalé and Kégalla districts. Consignments of seed, of both Forastero and Criollo varieties were also made to Bombay (for Goa) and to Zanzibar, where efforts in Cacao cultivation are being made.

Indian-rubber Trees: Hevea brasiliensis.—Since the plantation of this tree at Henaratgoda was thinned out and the poorer and stunted specimens removed, the remainder have thriven remarkably. There are now 457 fine trees, the largest with a stem 53½ in. in circumference at a yard from the ground. A very large crop of seed was produced in June and July, and a case containing 2,000 was sent to Kew for transmission to Jamaica, as well as smaller quantities to Madras, Rangoon, Penang, and Buitenzorg. A request for seed in quantity from the Straits was received too late, but will be complied with next season.

Hevea Spruceana.—As recorded in my reports for 1884, 1885, all of a previous consignment of this rubber died. I have this year received from Kew six more plants, but I regret to have to report that only one has survived.

Castilloa elastica.—The trees of this rubber now grow very slowly; the largest tree at Henaratgoḍa has scarcely increased an inch in circumference during the year, being now 39 in. Some further information as to the method of extracting Caoutchouc from this tree followed in British Honduras will be found in the Kew "Bulletin" for December last. Young plants of this as well as of the climbing Rubbers, *Landolphia Kirkii* and *Urceola esculenta*, are on sale at Henaratgoḍa.

Sapium biglandulosum.—Seeds of this rubber-producing plant, the "Touckpong" of British Guiana, were received from Mr. Jenman in May and germinated well. He reports of this tree: "It is quite hardy, of rapid growth, yields abundant milk, and the rubber is of high-class quality." Samples of the rubber were shown at the Colonial and Indian Exhibition of 1886, and very favourably reported on.

Gutta-percha Trees.—All the sorts we have are doing well, but the plants of this family are all of very slow growth. The "Gutta Sundek" trees (*Payena Leerii*) at Henaratgoḍa are now 18 ft. in height.

Cubebs.—The high price at which this drug has been lately selling in the home market has led to several inquiries as to the possibility of its cultivation in Ceylon and the means to obtain plants. A few remarks may be therefore offered on the subject.

Piper Cubeba is a pepper, and, like the majority of its congeners, is a climbing plant. It is considered to be native in Java, Sumatra, and Borneo, but can scarcely be said to be known wild.* The cultivation of Cubebs as a commercial pursuit appears to be carried on only in certain parts of Java and Sumatra, and the business to be almost entirely in the hands of the natives. The dried fruits, which form the Cubebs of commerce, come into trade through Singapore. No details are known of the mode of cultivation, which, however, appears to be merely that of ordinary pepper, the stems being allowed to climb over the trunks of trees, and the fruits plucked before they are quite ripe, and carefully dried. There is no reason to doubt that it could be easily carried on in the moist low-country of Ceylon, and it is perhaps remarkable that it has not been practised by our native population who grow other kinds of pepper so largely. It is, however, by no means easy to obtain the true *P. Cubeba*, which is a plant very little known, and indeed imperfectly understood even by botanists. Several other species approach it very closely, and even at Kew the cultivated plant, hitherto believed to be *P. Cubeba*, and figured by me under that name in 1877 ("Medicinal Plants" III., t. 243), has since been determined to be another species; and there is nothing now there to represent the Cubebs plant.† The botany of the subject is still greatly involved, and in trade also numerous spurious and false Cubebs are met with, the fruits of allied species.

One of the difficulties in the way of commencing the cultivation of Cubebs is due to the plant being diœcious, with the male and female flowers borne on different plants. On several occasions I have succeeded in getting plants for the Gardens, and at present I have some fifteen young plants at Henaratgoḍa, obtained by propagating from a single one from Singapore. Unhappily, on flowering this proved to be a male, as has been the case with each of the other plants I have been able at different times to obtain. Either sex is, of course, useless alone, and I am now attempting to get ripe seed from Java. But it appears to be difficult to obtain this from the natives. The crop is said to be a somewhat uncertain one, and this may account for the irregular supply of the market and the great fluctuations in price.

Ipecacuanha.—This very valuable drug has been in cultivation here for many years. The Gardens first received it in 1848‡ from Kew, and additional consignments from the same source were obtained in 1866 and 1871, whilst in 1874 a hundred plants arrived from Calcutta in good order. Many remarks on its cultivation will be found in Dr. Thwaites' reports from 1872 to 1878. So long as it was grown at Pérádeniya very little satisfactory growth could be obtained, and the plants remained very small, but at Henaratgoḍa the results have been somewhat better. Still, as I remarked in my report for 1880, not much progress, so far as the production of the roots themselves went, could be reported. During the past year, however, as a result of more care in the preparation of the soil and choice of situation for the beds, some roots of much finer growth have been produced, and I do not dispair of yet producing a good sample of this important medicine. The plant is propagated with extreme facility by division of its roots, but from its small size and very slow growth it must always be the subject rather of garden than estate cultivation. Mr. Cantley, in his last report on the Singapore Botanic Garden, notes that in Johore he saw thousands of plants in excellent health grown in rich vegetable soil with wood ashes, and well protected from the sun and wind by palm-leaves. I may note that a commercial sample has been imported to London from Singapore (probably from this very plantation) and has formed the subject of analysis, showing a proportion of 1·7 per cent. emetine, which is well up to the average of the Brazilian drug.§ By order of the Madras Government a plantation is about to be formed in the teak plantation at Nilambur on the Malabar coast.

Coca.—Our numerous old bushes at Pérádeniya bearing this year a large crop of seed, I advertised it for sale and disposed of some 25,000 seeds to over 100 purchasers. As this seems to show some renewal of interest in the plant, a few further notes upon it may be here given. As stated in my report for 1884, we received the plant originally in 1870 from Kew, and I believe that all the plants now in the Colony have been derived from the Pérádeniya stock.‖ This matter of

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* The plant lately recorded as Cubebs in one of the local newspapers as found in the south of Ceylon was doubtless one of our wild peppers, of which we possess a dozen species.

† See Kew "Bulletin" for December, 1887, where will be found a figure, taken from a dried specimen from Java, of the true plant. A more complete illustration is given in two folio plates in Miquel's treatise "De vera Pipere Cubeba" (1839), of which there is a copy in the Pérádeniya Library.

‡ This is eighteen years earlier than the date usually given for the introduction of the plant into the East. I regret I have nothing beyond the bare record, in Mr. Gardner's report of these Gardens for 1847–48, of its receipt here.

§ Pharmac. Journ., November 12, 1887, pp. 400 and 406.

‖ Mr. T. Christy of London, is believed to have sent some seeds and plants to Ceylon, but I am unable to trace them.

origin is important, as more than one variety is in cultivation. Mr. Thiselton Dyer informs me that there is some doubt as to the source of the Kew plant, but it is thought likely that it may have been obtained from M. Triana, the well-known South American Botanist, in which case it was collected in New Grenada and not in Peru or Bolivia. His specimens in the Kew Herbarium, collected on the Rio Magdalena, are precisely like the cultivated plant at Kew. So long back as 1876, when I described and figured the Kew Garden plant ("Medicinal Plants," i. t. 40) it was obvious to me that it differed somewhat in the form of its leaves from the typical *E. Coca*, and I added a figure of the usual pointed form of leaf for comparison. It is probable that several forms are cultivated in South America, and perhaps some may be richer in alkaloid than others. I am informed by Dr. Burck, of Buitenzorg, that two varieties are now being grown in Java, and that one of them has yielded on analysis a percentage of ·87 per cent. of Cocaine, which is considerably higher than that of the sample sent home by me from Pérádeniya, as recorded in my report for 1885. I am now sending home for analysis some other more carefully prepared samples of our variety. The existence of different varieties of this species may probably explain the fact, noted in my report for 1884, that though a mountain plant in the Andes, it is not found to grow in our higher elevations. Experience in Ceylon shows that it does well only at levels below about 2,500 ft., and that as a rule some shade is necessary.

Pepper (Piper nigrum).—The plants received from Singapore two years ago are now making good growth, and appear to be of a more vigorous and better variety than any of the native ones so much grown for local sale. It is remarkable that the cultivation of this product on a large scale for export has never been seriously taken up in Ceylon.

Gambier.—This is another great cultivation at Singapore, and, like pepper, is mainly in the hands of the Chinese. Between 25,000 and 30,000 tons of this tanning material are annually exported thence, much of it of a very inferior quality. I have found it most difficult to obtain living specimens of the plant (*Uncaria Gambier*) from which this extract is prepared. Seed appears very difficult to get, as the climbing stems are all cut before flowering, but in March I received over 200 cuttings in Wardian cases. Of these, one sickly specimen only survives.

Tobacco.—It seems probable that a serious attempt at this cultivation as a planting product is about to be made in Ceylon. This is the result of the successful sale in Europe of a trial shipment of leaf grown in the Dumbara valley, east of Kandy, and of the visit to Ceylon of a tobacco grower of experience from Sumatra. So favourably impressed was he with the prospects of this cultivation here, that it is understood that considerable purchases of land have been made for the purpose; and tobacco culture for the home market is at last likely to have a fair trial. It is expected that Ceylon leaf will prove to be specially suited for the wrappers or covers of cigars.

A good quantity of seed of four varieties of tobacco—Brazil, Havana, Virginia, and Sumatra—was carefully harvested at the Badulla garden and disposed of to numerous purchasers.

Report on Colonial Fruit.—In compliance with a request from the Secretary of State, I wrote and sent in to Government in May last a report giving such information as I could obtain on the fruits grown in Ceylon. The object of the inquiry, which extended to all the Colonies of the Empire, has been to ascertain whether the trade in fresh and preserved fruit between the Colonies and the home or other suitable markets could not be extended and improved. However important in relation to some Colonies this question may be, it has little or no practical interest for Ceylon; we are too distant from home to allow of our sending thither fresh fruit as a commercial speculation. Australia can grow for itself all it requires, and we have no other market within reach for our tropical productions. There is, however, one direction in which an improved trade in fresh fruit is possible, and I may quote here a paragraph from my report on the subject:—"In the neighbourhood of the ports of Colombo and Galle there has taken place a considerably increased production of such fruit as can be sold to the dubashes and bumboat men who supply the ships. It appears that this trade has become one of considerable magnitude, but no records of its amount are obtainable. It is certain that the quality is usually very inferior, and the prices paid to the native growers extremely low. The trade needs encouragement and regulation, and its details are well worthy the careful attention of the agents of the great Mail Steamer Companies at Colombo."

As regards *preserved* fruit, I made the following remarks:—"I cannot but think that an export trade might be set on foot in preserved plantains and pine-apples. These can be readily and very cheaply grown in any quantity and of fine quality. Plantains simply sliced and dried in the sun like dates are very tasty and nutritious, and would, if cheap, be likely to sell well at home. A trade in preserved pine-apples has sprung up at Singapore, and might well also be attempted here in Ceylon." It should however be added that in such a business success very greatly depends on the style in which the fruit is put up; unless it look attractive and pleasant, there is no chance of a sale in Europe.

Cherimoyer (Anona Cherimolia).—This delicious fruit has been produced, I suppose for the first time in Ceylon, on trees sent out from Hakgala in 1882, and Mr. Nock reports that Mr. J. Sinclair, of Taláwakęlé, Dimbula, has kindly sent him a few seeds from them. The Hakgala trees themselves have not yet flowered, though doing well. The best elevation for this fruit is from 3,000 ft. to 5,000 ft., and it is hoped it will soon now become frequent within that zone.

American Blackberry.—I obtained seeds of a strain of this fruit, "Wilson Junior," which has been highly recommended, and they were sown at Hakgala, but I regret to say that none germinated. Several cuttings of English wild Blackberries from Kew have however been successfully started at Hakgala.

Brazil Nut (Bertholletia excelsa).—Of this handsome South American tree, which affords the hard-shelled oily seeds (nuts) so well known in England, we received three plants from Kew in November, 1880. They have not grown very fast, the largest at Henaratgoḍa being now 20½ ft. high with a girth of 11 in. at a yard from the ground. The only tree at Pérádeniya is much smaller, but has twice had the misfortune of being eaten off down to the ground by cattle.

Mangosteen.—Mr. Cantley, of Singapore, when on a visit here in March brought with him some young plants of this favourite fruit tree. Fifteen were planted at Pérádeniya and thirteen added to the plantation at Henaratgoḍa, and all are doing well.

Tuberous-rooted Vine (*Vitis* (*Ampelocissus*) *Martini*).—This is a native of Cochin-China, and was first brought into notice some years ago by Mr. Martin, of the Saigon Botanic Garden. We received seeds of it in 1883 (see report for that year) from the Hongkong Botanic Gardens under the name of *V. Martinellii*, and there are now two healthy plants at Henaratgoḍa. Mr. Ford, of Hongkong, informs me that it requires a rich soil and then produces very large tubers; the stout stems, which die down every year, require the support of a wire trellis. The grapes, which under liberal cultivation are produced in about four years, are said to be large and of a good flavour. Such a fruit ought to be a great acquisition to a tropical country—and I hope we shall succeed in the culture of this interesting plant.

Tuberous-rooted Bean (Pachyrrhizus).—Under the name of "*Dolichos tuberosus*" we received from Kew in June last seeds of a pulse which appears to be a useful addition to the vegetable garden. The young plants put out in August grew vigorously over the ordinary bamboo supports, and in November produced a crop of large pods which, sliced and served like French beans, were very sweet and tender. But besides the pods the plant also afforded large, elongated, arrowroot-like tubers on the roots, which, though without much taste, are palatable when well cooked, and somewhat like a very firm-fleshed turnip. I have not been able to trace the name under which the seeds were received, but the plant appears to be a variety of *Pachyrrhizus angulatus*, Rich. (*Dolichos bulbosus*, L.) which, though said to be widely grown as a tropical vegetable, seems hitherto quite unknown in Ceylon.*

Cho-cho.—Mr. Nock writes:—

It is interesting to note that the old plant, the parent of all in Ceylon, is in a very flourishing condition, and since the vines were cut back and the roots manured, it has produced a fine lot of handsome fruit, several of them weighing 3½ lb. each. I may also mention that the yam which the plant produces is much relished by the natives. It makes, to their taste, a first-rate curry, and is preferred by many of them to the "English" potato. To test the weight of yams one plant would produce I had one lifted, in October, and found it yielded 22 lb. of edible roots. This plant was about eighteen months old.

Ullucus tuberosus.—Mr. Nock reports further on this plant:—

It does very well in this climate and crops freely. On one root which I lifted I counted 263 tubers, varying in size from one inch in diameter to the size of small peas. The largest tuber in the whole crop weighed only ¾ oz.; but want of size is made up for by number, and the produce of one root would be enough for at least one good dish of curry. Its cultivation is exceedingly simple, and it will, I think, prove to be a valuable addition to the native vegetables. If the tubers are planted in good soil, about 18 in. apart, it matures its crop in from four to six months. All the cultivation it requires is to be kept free from weeds by hand, and watered occasionally in dry weather. The stems trail along the ground and produce roots at almost every joint, and these also produce tubers so that the soil about them must not be disturbed. As soon as the tops die down the tubers should be lifted, and are then ready for use. Like potatoes, those that are required for "seed" should be stored in a dry place until they begin to sprout, and they are then fit for planting. This would be about the month of April.

Teff (Eragrostis Abyssinica).—At the beginning of April I received from the Royal Gardens, Kew, a small quantity of seeds of this cereal of Abyssinia. Some were sent to Hakgala, and Mr. Nock reports:—

It was sown on the 5th, began to germinate on the 10th, and grew very fast. By the end of May it was 18 in. high. It began to flower on the 15th of May. It was harvested in July, and yielded a crop of 41 ounces of grain. The yield would have been much larger but for the destruction by hares, which eat a considerable quantity of the young plants. The grain is very small, but well-tasted, and I have no doubt will make a good flour for cakes.

I also sowed a bed at Pérádeniya, which is at too low an elevation for this mountain grass. It was in flower by April 20, and seeded sparingly in June. In Abyssinia this small grain is much appreciated by all classes; it is cultivated there at elevations of from 6,000 ft. to 7,000 ft. A full account will be found in the Kew "Bulletin" for January, 1887.

Barley.—For some years this cereal has been grown by the Badagas on the Nilgiri hills for the use of the local brewery at Ootacamund, and on the initiation of Mr. J. W. Howard, manager of the branch of the same Company at Nuwara Eliya, an effort has been made to promote its cultivation in our hill country. This gentleman has supplied those willing to try it with seed from N. India, free, and agreed to purchase the crops at Rs. 2 per bushel. He has, at my request, kindly given me the results so far, and he thinks them promising; I fear, however, that our climate will in most years prove either too hot or too wet, or both, to allow of a crop ripening. The greatest success as yet has been met with at Węlimaḍa, on the slopes of Wilson's Bungalow, Uva, where in the season 1886–7 a crop of 30 bushels an acre (33-fold) was reaped in February, the seed having been sown in November. But in the present dry season (1887–8) the yield has been only 13-fold. The only other place where barley has been successfully grown is at Hanguranketa, where in 1886–7 100 bushels were harvested; but this season the crop has entirely failed there. Unsuccessful attempts have also been made at Uḍa Pussęlláwa, Mátalé, and Kęgalla. Some 200 bushels have been brought to the brewery, but the grain was not fit for malting owing to the growers having harvested it before it was fully ripe.†

Eucalyptus Plantation, Hakgala.—Mr. Nock writes:—

The trees suffered very much during the high winds in June, July, and August, and the whole plantation looks very scrubby, as the tops of many of the best trees have been broken off and the branches torn about in all directions. It is evident that in exposed situations this class of trees should be planted very close together in order to support one another in rough weather. I find, too, that, like all other trees, to really thrive and make good timber they want good soil. They can, however, be grown for firewood on comparatively poor land.

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* Since the above was written, I am informed by Mr. Thiselton Dyer that the seeds were received at Kew from Trinidad, and that the plant is the "Yam Bean" of the West Indies.

† I have the opportunity of adding to the above the encouraging results of the present season (1887–8) in the Węlimaḍa fields. The grain was reaped in March, and several samples competed for the prizes offered by Mr. Howard at the Show held at Nuwara Eliya at the beginning of April. All were of remarkably good quality: the grain hard, dry, and well filled; the best weighed as much as 56 lb. per bushel. The exceptionally dry season appears to have been very favourable to the complete ripening of the grain.

The following table shows the height and girth of the fifteen selected trees, and may be compared with the table of growth for the years from 1884 given in the last report. The soil they are growing in is very poor, so that they might be expected to do as well as this in almost any soil. They are nearly six years old from seed.

Names.		1888. Height. ft.	Girth. in.	Names.		1888. Height. ft.	Girth. in.
E. robusta	...	43	34	E. microcorys	...	40	29
„ longifolia	...	50	32	„ Sieberiana	...	35	20
„ marginata	...	51	28	„ amygdalina	...	35	28
„ Gunnii	...	44	21	„ piperita	...	29	27
„ cornuta	...	Top broken	24	„ hæmastoma	...	Top broken	26
„ colossea	...	42	24	„ Lehmanni	...	32	22
„ viminalis	...	31	33	„ alpina	...	17	15
„ botryoides	...	35	29				

English Oak.—About 4,000 acorns were received at Hakgala from Kew. On December 8 Mr. Nock reports that they are germinating freely, and that in a few months' time he hopes to have a good stock for distribution in the hill country.

Conifers at Hakgala.—Several of these have now attained a very respectable size. The following are Mr. Nock's notes on those which are doing the best :—

Cupressus torulosa, the Himalayan Cypress. The largest specimen of this ornamental pyramidal tree is 62 ft. high with a girth of 6 ft. 4 in. This species does equally well at Pérádeniya.

Cupressus macrocarpa is now 56 ft. high with a girth at base of 6 ft. 9 in. and a spread of branches of 40 ft. It is a very handsome tree and produces excellent timber.

Cupressus, species, with small fruit. This, of which we have several large specimens, is one of the best trees in the garden, and is growing very rapidly now. The largest is 58 ft. high, 8 ft. 4 in. round the base, and the spread of branches measures 38 ft.

Pinus longifolia, which is one of the most valuable timber trees of the Himalayan regions, continues to thrive well, and the largest specimen, by the office, is now 41 ft. 6 in. high and 6 ft. 6 in. round the trunk at base, and through the branches 25 ft. This is so far the best *Pinus* yet tried here; it really grows well, and being very ornamental is very useful for planting round bungalows at high elevations. The only other *Pinus* that is doing well is *P. sinensis*, but these are all young yet, and look rather weak in the stems.

Cryptomeria japonica.—A few of these plants are now growing rapidly and are exceedingly handsome trees. The tallest is 42 ft. high with a girth of 6 ft., well shaped and clothed to the ground with branches.

Thuja gigantea is now 31 ft. high and 4 ft. round the stem close to the ground.

Ebony.—In response to an application from the Department of Agriculture of the United States, a supply of seed of this valuable cabinetwood has been sent for trial in South Florida. It is scarcely to be expected that this thoroughly tropical forest-tree can succeed there; but experiments in the same direction are being largely tried in the State with other equatorial species, and the cocoanut is already successfully grown in some places. Seed was at the same time, in November, despatched to Jamaica, Perak, and Fiji.

Ceylon Oils.—At the Colonial and Indian Exhibition of 1886 there were exhibited a few small samples of some of our native oils from the Northern and Central Provinces.

These were submitted to a well-known expert, Mr. L. Field, and in his report he has remarked on the very great suitability of some of them for soap-making. Punnai, Illupai, and Kękuna oils were all new to him, and of each he speaks very highly in this respect, and expresses the opinion that a very large demand for them would arise if they could be supplied at a cheap rate. It would appear that there may be here an opening for a large business in the native districts.

Punnai nuts, the seeds of *Calophyllum Inophyllum*, can be obtained in quantity on our coasts; the Illupai, or Mi tree, *Bassia longifolia*, is abundant throughout the drier districts; whilst the Kękuna, *Aleurites triloba*, though not native, is to be found in every village in the moister regions of the Island.

9.—*Herbarium, Museum, and Library.*

Herbarium.—I made two botanical collecting tours during the year, one to Héwęssa and neighbouring parts of the Pasdun kóralé, and the other to the very little known mountain, Riţigala, in the North-Central Province. In these expeditions I was successful in adding a few plants to the Ceylon flora. The Ceylon Herbarium is now all in very good order, and additional specimens are readily intercalated in their places as they are obtained. I have devoted some spare time to sorting and arranging our duplicate specimens, but have very little leisure for this kind of work.

The late Mr. W. Ferguson, shortly before his lamented death on July 31, permitted me to go over his valuable collection of Ceylon *Algæ* (seaweeds, &c.), to select from it a series for Pérádeniya where this class of plants was poorly represented. A list of the Ceylon species has been published during the year by Mr. G. Murray of the British Museum, and I have now arranged our collection in accordance with it.

The whole of Dr. Thwaites' accurate analytic drawings of dissections of Ceylon plants have been laid into their places in the collection of coloured drawings.

The *General Herbarium* has been enriched during the year by the following donations :—

From the Royal Herbarium, Kew :—Collections from Malacca and other parts of the Malay Peninsula, collected by Hervey, Curtis, and others, and from the Seychelle Islands collected by Neville.

From Dr. King, F.R.S., Calcutta :—Four bundles of Indian plants from the Calcutta Herbarium.

From C. Curtis, F.L.S. :—186 species of plants from Penang.

My principal employment during the past year has been the compilation, with the aid of the Library and Herbarium, of a Catalogue of the contents of the Gardens. This has long been felt as a pressing want both by the Garden staff and the general public, and especially by our correspondents in other countries; but it is a work which cannot be done hurriedly. The list as now completed is brought down to the end of 1886 and contains about 3,000 species, mostly trees and shrubs. The Government Printer has done his share of the work with accuracy and despatch, and the little book, "Hortus Zeylanicus," of 130 pages was printed within the year and published in January, 1888. It is now on sale at the price of Re. 1, at the Garden gate. A Herbarium of cultivated garden plants, named in correspondence with the Catalogue, has also been in course of formation at the same time; it has made considerable progress, and will be constantly kept up.

Museum.—At last I am able to report the commencement of the long projected Museum of Economic Botany. The hand specimens of Ceylon timbers mentioned in my last report have been all cleaned, poisoned with corrosive sublimate, and labelled with printed tickets giving their botanical, Siphalese, and Tamil names. Stands have been made to accommodate them, and the whole series, 335 in number, occupies two rooms of the Museum building. There are several duplicates of the same wood from different parts of the Island, but a good many of our timbers are still unrepresented.

At the close of the Colonial and India Exhibition in London, in 1886, I made an application to Dr. Watt, the officer in charge of the Indian Economic Court, for a set of any drugs, food products, or other vegetable substances of which duplicates might be available. In April last three cases of such specimens were duly received at Pérádeniya, and though a good many were considerably damaged by sea-water, I have been able to select over a hundred specimens of grains, fibres, drugs, resins, &c., which will be very useful for reference.

We have also received a valuable donation from the Museum of the Pharmaceutical Society in London, an institution to which it has been occasionally within my power to contribute specimens. This consists of 150 fine samples of the drugs in ordinary use. I have not as yet unpacked these—they arrived in November—as I have no proper receptacles to contain them. Until I am able to provide a supply of air-tight glass-stoppered jars, nothing can be done in the way of the exhibition of specimens of this kind.

Library.—The additions to the Library during the year 1887 have been the following :—

Micheli, Nova Genera Plantarum. 1728.
Hermann, Musæum Zeylanicum. 1726. *(Presented.)*
King, Species of Ficus, Part 1. 1887. *(Presented by the Government of Bengal.)*
Von Mueller, Iconography of Australian Acacias, Parts 1 to 4. 1887. *(Presented by the Government of Victoria.)*
Kaulfuss, Enumeratio Filicum. 1824.
Beddome, Supplement to Ferns of India. 1876.
Turner, Fuci, 4 vols. 1808–1819.
Harvey, Nereis Bor. Americana, Part 3. 1858. (Completing the work.)
Murray, G., Ceylon Algæ in the Herb. of the British Museum. 1887. *(Presented.)*
Report of the "Challenger" Expedition, Botany, Vol. II. (Castracane, Diatoms). *(Presented by the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty.)*
Annales du Jard. Bot. de Buitenzorg, Vol. IV. Part 2, Vol. V. Part 2. *(Presented.)*
Icones Plantarum, Vol. VI. Parts 3 and 4; Vol. VII. Part 4; Vol. VIII. Part 1. *(Presented by the Bentham Trustees.)*
Smith, J., Records of Kew, "1880." *(Presented.)*
Penzig, Studi Botanici s. Agrumi. 2 vols. 1887. *(Presented by the Ministry of Agriculture, Italy.)*
Moore, Lepidoptera of Ceylon. Pt. 13, completing the work. *(Presented by the Ceylon Government.)*

We have also received the annual volumes of the following periodical publications for 1887 :—Botanical Magazine, Gardeners' Chronicle, Indian Forester, Journal of Botany (*presented*), Pharmaceutical Journal (*presented*), Tropical Agriculturist.

Our thanks are also due for numerous reports and papers from various Botanic Gardens and Societies, for the Kew "Bulletin," the papers of the Madras Government, the Indian Forest Reports, &c.

It would, I think, be now very useful to have the Catalogue of the Pérádeniya Library printed; it is a valuable and fairly extensive collection of botanical literature, and its contents should be made publicly known.

10.—*Receipts from Sales.*

There is a substantial increase in the sales at Pérádeniya during the year. This is mainly due to the large sale of seed of timber-trees for planting on tea estates. The sales of Wardian cases were 16, and of boxes of Orchids, 20.

			Rs.	c.
From Pérádeniya	...	...	2,740	75
Hakgala	...	...	656	96
Henaratgoḍa	...	...	156	22
Anurádhapura	...	...	59	95
Badulla	...	...	181	99
		Total ...	3,795	87

The number of purchasers was :—

At Pérádeniya	.	...	469
Hakgala	...	...	129
Henaratgoḍa	...	.	40
Anurádhapura	...	...	46
Badulla	..	...	88
		Total ...	772

11.—*Expenditure.*

The expenditure on this Department for 1887 has been :—

		Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Salaries		—		18,447	0
Gardeners' and Labourers' wages :—					
Pérádeniya	...	8,188	41		
Hakgala	...	3,000	0		
Henaratgoḍa	...	1,999	93		
Anurádhapura	...	999	99		
Badulla	...	1,499	16		
				15,768	92
Office Contingencies	...	—		3,097	46
Stationery	...	—		81	25
Travelling and Collecting	...	—		1,992	30
			Total ...	39,386	93

Deducting receipts for sales, paid into revenue, the total cost of the Department is Rs. 35,591·06.

HENRY TRIMEN, M.B.,
Director.

Pérádeniya, February 28, 1888.

FOREST CONSERVANCY.

REPORT OF THE CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS FOR 1887.

THE necessity for the conservation of the forests of Ceylon was first brought into prominent notice in 1873 by Doctor (now Sir Joseph) Hooker, who, on the report of Doctor Thwaites, then Director of the Botanic Gardens, Pérádeniya, addressed the Secretary of State for the Colonies on the subject of the destruction of the forests in Ceylon, and the evil effects resulting therefrom upon climate and upon the natural resources of the Colony in future generations.

The Government of Ceylon had been alive to these evils, and to a certain extent had endeavoured to provide against them, but as forest conservation on a sufficient scale demands a considerable expenditure at the outset until the revenue derived renders a Forest Department self-supporting, it did not feel itself in a position to grant the necessary supplies for the purpose. Notwithstanding this, efforts were made by the Government in other directions to mitigate the evils attending indiscriminate sales of land.

In 1882, Mr. Vincent, of the Indian Forest Service, was, on the application of the Ceylon Government, deputed by the Government of India to report on the forests of Ceylon. His valuable report was published as a Sessional Paper, No. 43 of 1882.

As the result of this report, and of a desire on the part of the Government to carry out forest conservation on a satisfactory basis, an Ordinance was passed in the session of 1885, intituled "The Forest Ordinance."

The object of this Ordinance and of the rules made under it is, in the first place, to select suitable areas of forest lands and to constitute them State reserved forests; to buy off or to commute by the grant of land any rights which the population in the vicinity may have acquired in these lands; to mark off on the ground the boundaries in an unmistakable manner; to place these areas under effective protection; to improve them by sowing and planting wherever necessary; and, generally, to introduce system where there had been no system.

As the result of systematic treatment it is hoped to guarantee a permanent sustained yield of timber, fuel, and minor forest produce, not only for the existing, but for future generations, to improve the climatic conditions, and by judicious restrictions in regard to harmful cultivation to meet the wants, and safeguard the interests of all classes of the community.

There can be little doubt of the success of these measures, provided they are carried out with intelligence, fairness, and firmness on the part of the Government officers, together with an appreciation on the part of the people of the general benefit to the community that the Government has in view.

Although the object of the State in the execution of the important trust committed to it, both in regard to the welfare of the present and future generations, is strictly conservative, and has higher aims than the mere acquisition of revenue; still, judging from the results of forest conservation in India, the revenue to be derived from proper management is far in excess of the cost of establishments and working. Ceylon has in its forests timber and minor produce of not less value, comparatively, than those of India, where the receipts in the year 1883-4 amounted to £1,052,190, and the clear profit to £403,815.

Up to a very recent period this valuable State property in Ceylon, more particularly the forest produce, has not been disposed of to the best advantage. The Crown forests have been systematically plundered by a gang of native timber thieves, who, often with the connivance of native headmen, gained a rich harvest, thereby depriving the people generally of a revenue which should have passed into the Colonial Exchequer, and should have thereby benefited the community at large. An organised Forest Department will in the future aid the Government Agent in securing to the country this important branch of the revenue.

Not only are our forests worth preserving for the valuable timber, fuel, and minor produce they contain, and for the employment that forest management provides for a certain proportion of the population; but by judicious conservation their indirect value, as affecting the climatic conditions, and therefore the wants and interests of the people generally, will be greatly enhanced.

There can be little doubt that forests render climate more equable, increase the relative humidity of the air, and possibly augment the rainfall. In tropical countries like Ceylon, where the rain falls at certain seasons only, and then falls in heavy showers, a covering of forest protects the soil from being washed away, and thereby mitigates the silting up of rivers and low lands. In this respect Ceylon has in the past suffered much by denudation. Again, forests regulate the water-supply, insure the sustained yield of springs, and render the flow of water in rivers more continuous; they reduce the velocity of the wind, and afford protection to the neighbouring fields. Further, forests afford shelter to cattle and useful birds, and under suitable treatment improve the healthiness and picturesqueness of the country.

Many instances might be cited of the evil effects of forest denudation in almost every country of the world; but some very striking ones were given in evidence in 1885 before the Select Committee of the House of Commons on Forestry, affording a useful warning of what might happen at no distant date in Ceylon, unless preventive measures are taken. It was given in evidence by the late Political Agent of Jinjira, in Western India, that that native state, about forty miles long and from fifteen to one hundred miles wide, was at one time entirely covered with forest, but

owing to the demands of the city of Bombay, three-fourths of the forest, in consequence of indiscriminate felling, disappeared within seven years, and the remaining fourth was only saved with difficulty. The result to this native state was simply ruinous, and if unchecked would have deprived it of all its resources. Another instance was brought before the notice of the Committee. The district of Ratnagiri, fifty years ago, used to be the great rice-producing district of the west of India, when there were dense forests extending up to the Western Ghats. In the present day, the country up to the crests of the hills has been laid bare of forest growth, and the people complain bitterly of the yield of the rice land below, which has been attributed to the destruction of the forest operating to prevent the water from being stored upon the hillsides: it runs away in violent floods instead of flowing gently over the country.

There are parts of Ceylon at this moment, in the Southern and North-Western Provinces and in the Province of Uva, where the havoc of the chena cultivator threatens to repeat the disasters of Ratnagiri.

In the middle of 1887, Mr. A. Thompson, of the Indian Forest Department, was deputed from India to advise the Government of Ceylon on the conservation of its forests. That officer, however, speedily lost his health, and in September of the same year resigned his appointment. Before leaving the Island he expressed the opinion that the most pressing matters to be undertaken were the selection, demarcation, survey, and settlement of reserved forests. Mr. Thompson, owing, it is presumed, to want of time, left behind him no scheme of operations for the coming year. On his departure in October the Surveyor-General was appointed Acting Conservator of Forests in addition to his own duties.

One of the most important matters that the Acting Conservator had to submit for the instructions of Government was the position of Foresters in relation to the Government Agents and the newly-created appointment of Conservator of Forests.

There is much to be said from a technical and departmental point of view in favour of Foresters being entirely under the control of the Conservator of Forests; and, on the other hand, there is a great deal that may be adduced from a political point of view in favour of placing the Foresters under the Government Agent.

From a technical point of view it is of the first necessity that the working of the forests and the cultural operations connected therewith, in order to ensure the proper continuity of the work, should be considered solely the business of the Conservator of Forests, subject, of course, to the supervision of Government. This reason alone might by many be considered sufficient cause for the Forest Officers to be placed beyond possibility of interference by Government Agents.

On the other hand, from a political point of view, it might be very properly urged that a Forest Department, working entirely without the knowledge of the Government Agent, might be neglectful of the interests and requirements of the people, and be prone to press the provisions of the Forest Law too hardly against them.

With these chief considerations in view, I submitted to Government that a middle course was advisable, and that the Forester of a Province should carry out the various forest works of demarcation, conservation, cultural treatment, &c. (as agreed upon annually by the Government Agent and the Conservator of Forests, and approved by Government), under the authority and protection of the Government Agent, while in administrative matters connected with discipline, pay, promotion, transfer, &c., he should be directly under the Conservator of Forests. By this dual subordination, provided the Government Agent and Conservator of Forests worked harmoniously together and co-operated towards the common end both have in view, I conceived that the interests of both forest conservation and of the people would be met, in that the just demand and requirements of forest conservancy will be attended to under the full authority of the head of the Province, while full control over the Departmental finance, and over the organisation and technical part of the work, is reserved to the Conservator of Forests.

Government was pleased to approve of this recommendation.

The matter next in importance was to draw up a project of operations for 1888. The Acting Conservator of Forests placed himself in communication with the Government Agents, and after learning their views drew up the following plan of operations for the year 1888 under the respective headings of—(*a*) Forest Demarcation, (*b*) Timber and Firewood Supply (*c*) Re-afforestation, (*d*) Extra Establishment. The plan of operations was sanctioned by Government in March, 1888.

(*a*) *Demarcation.*—This subject is considered to be of primary importance, because, until the forests are selected for reservation, and the rights of the neighbouring population judicially inquired into and settled, and the forest boundaries properly defined and marked out on the ground, the law for their protection against encroachment and illicit felling cannot be satisfactorily enforced. It was therefore recommended to Government that the surveys required as preliminary to the examination of claims, and for the demarcation of boundaries on the ground, should be actively proceeded with so far as the resources of the Survey Department would allow. It was further represented that the first measures of forest conservation should be directed to the neighbourhood of the large cities and towns, where, owing to the requirements of a dense population, the forest is rapidly disappearing for want of effective protection. At the same time, the firewood supply for the railway, both as it exists at the present and its probable requirements in the future, must not be lost sight of. It was submitted to Government that, speaking generally, there is no *immediate* necessity to demarcate the forests in the vast tracts which cover the whole face of the Northern, Eastern, and North-Central Provinces, as these are less open to encroachment, but that all available strength should be concentrated for the present on the remaining Provinces.

In the event of this suggestion meeting with the approval of Government it was proposed, in the Western Province, to demarcate the Mitirigala and Kananpella forests, both of them important from their situation near to Colombo on the banks of the Kelani. The survey of the Kelani reserve, which was commenced in 1887, will, it is hoped, be completed in 1888. Nearly the whole of that part of the so-called reserve which lies in the Central Province is found to be almost non-existent; while that part which lies in the Western Province will only be of value as a climatic reserve. The rest has disappeared before the squatter and chena cultivator.

With regard to the large surveys carried out under the Adam's Peak range in the villages of Gilimale and Bambarabotuwa, the plans of which are now ready, it will be for Government to determine what parts of the forest should be reserved for climatic and timber purposes, and what

should be sold. When this is done, the reserved forest should at once be demarcated and the rights of the natives determined and judicially settled.

In the North-Western Province it is proposed to demarcate important reserves just outside the towns of Puttalam, Kurunégala, and Chilaw, as a first step. There are other important forests in this Province which must be demarcated at an early date, before they become a prey to the chena cultivator.

In the Central Province there is work to be done in the selection and demarcation of forests in the Mátalé District, while in the Nuwara Eliya District the importance of maintaining the boundaries of Crown forests against encroachment becomes more and more marked.

In the Northern Province it is desirable to select and demarcate several thousand acres as a reserved forest within accessible distance of the town of Jaffna.

(*b*) *Timber and Firewood Supply.*—By consensus of opinion among the Government Agents, the present system of allowing timber to be cut in Crown forests by contractors for the use of the Public Works Department or by private individuals on permit is universally condemned, as little or no check can be exercised, and the revenue fails to get the value of the timber carried away.

It is proposed to introduce an entire change in this system, or want of system, and in lieu of it to establish depôts at the chief centres where there is a sufficient local demand for timber and firewood to warrant the expense of their establishment. The trees in demand for timber will then be felled as they arrive at maturity, allowed to season, and be transported to the depôt to be sawn to the best advantage. In cutting out these trees there will be much branch wood which has hitherto been left to decay in the forest, but which will now be brought to depôt for sale as firewood. By thus utilising every part of the tree, whether cut down for timber, or in thinning out, or in opening out the necessary cart tracks, there is little doubt that considerable revenue will be derived. Moreover, the firewood supply being undertaken by the Forest Department, traders and their coolies will be kept out of the Crown forests which they have been accustomed to rob with impunity

It may be well here to mention that there seems a tendency in some places to fell timber before it arrives at maturity. In this *green* state timber lacks strength and durability, is more susceptible to dampness and to the attack of white ants, and is especially liable to split while seasoning. Where firewood is sold by weight there is an especial tendency to fell in the green state, for then the firewood is much heavier than when mature. There is a certain age at which a tree reaches its maximum weight; after that it loses in weight but gains in strength and durability until the age of maturity is reached.

Further, it is proposed, that instead of, as heretofore, the Government Agents felling separately, each for his own Province and without reference to the others, the annual felling should be regulated by the Conservator of Forests in communication with Government Agents according to the demands for Government use, the local demands of the public, and for export. In this way the balance between demand and supply will be better maintained.

It is proposed to have two main depôts, one at Colombo and one on the east coast. To the former depôt would be consigned all ebony, the best satinwood, and the better classes of cabinet woods, such as find favour for use in the capital or for export to Bombay, China, or England; while at the latter depôt would be sold such woods of the better classes as are in demand at Madras, but whose prices would not bear the cost of freight to Colombo. All inferior logs of cabinet woods and other timber of inferior sorts should be sold locally.

The principle of this arrangement may be summarised, that all superior classes of timber should be sold at Colombo when competition is rifest, while the inferior classes that would not pay the cost of transport should be disposed of locally.

During the year 1888 it is proposed to establish depôts at the following places :—

Western Province ...	Colombo Kalutara (later on)	Southern Province ...	Galle
North-Western Province	Kurunégala Puttalam	Central Province ...	Nuwara Eliya Nánu-oya Kandy Mátalé
Northern Province ...	Jaffna		
North-Central Province	Trincomalee (Eastern Province)	Province of Uva ...	Badulla Haputalé
Eastern Province ...	Batticaloa		

The question of supplying sleepers to the railway will have serious attention. The woods of Ceylon have not had a fair trial up to the present time, and it is very important that we should if possible meet the demand for sleepers from our local resources. Pálai (*Mimusops indica*) and Kumbuk (*Terminalia glabra*), which are most abundant in this Island, would, it is believed, be excellent woods for sleepers, and there are several others deserving of trial.

(*c*) *Re-afforestation and Conservation.*—It is the opinion of experts that questions of re-afforestation may, speaking generally, wait in this country until the more necessary measures of demarcation have made progress.

In regard to re-afforestation there seems to be some misapprehension. It appears to be supposed that any kind of tree, whether indigenous or exotic, only requires to be put into the ground in order to grow. No greater mistake could be made, and disappointment and waste of money can only result from any such treatment. Some seedlings require sun, others shade; while soil, aspect, climate and altitude have all to be taken into account in determining what species will thrive in a given place.

Projects of re-afforestation must be very carefully considered, and nothing done with precipitation. One great defect hitherto is, that some of the plantations in this country are neglected after they are once started, and for want of the requisite thinnings the young trees have grown up weakly, and are of little value in consequence. This is, of course, due to the want of the necessary establishment to look after the trees until they have become well started; but it is none the less an unfortunate circumstance.

As a rule, it is desirable to take up large areas rather than small for re-afforestation—say, not less than 500 acres—to fence it in properly in proportion as it is planted, and not to spare

labour until the young trees are well established. Small areas incapable of extension are costly in supervision.

Indigenous timbers should be cultivated in preference to exotic, except in special localities. The mainstay of our work for some years should be the planting of the species which are known to thrive and produce good serviceable timber in the localities where they are to be planted.

Many of our forests have been overworked, and require rest; for instance, in parts of the Eastern Province, it will be the duty of the Forester to make a careful survey of such forests, so as to determine the period of rest, to examine what prospects there are of seedlings of the better species growing up, or, if not, what areas should be replanted, and with what species.

I do not quite share the view held by Mr. Vincent that reproduction is generally bad in this country. On the contrary, I have been much surprised at the way in which satin and halmilla, two of our most important trees, reproduce themselves vigorously in unexpected places, such as on the border of chena lands or in places where the leaf canopy has been destroyed, and light accidentally let into the forest; given, of course, that the conditions in other respects are favourable to the growth of these species. In some of the ebony forests, too, the reproduction is satisfactory. All that is required is the establishment necessary to assist the saplings, and by fellings to preserve them from being choked by inferior species. With respect to the conservation and working of the forests, we shall, until the surveys and demarcation are complete, have to limit our cultural operations to the system known as that of *natural regeneration*, whereby the trees are only gradually removed as they arrive at maturity, so as to effect the regeneration of the forest by seed in the natural way, and to afford protection for a time to the young growth. With this cultural treatment we must combine the mode of working by compartments, whereby all the different compartments included in a forest are worked annually in rotation and given complete rest during the remainder of the period, so as to admit of their being properly protected during the years of reproduction. By this arrangement timber-cutters and coolies will be prevented from indiscriminate felling over the whole forest, which has done so much harm in the past.

(*d*) *Extra Establishments.*—As it is most important to check the illicit felling, which goes on unimpeded more or less over the whole Island, it is proposed to augment the present establishment by adding to it river-watchers, forest-rangers, and forest-guards, in order to help in the detection of these malpratices, and to bring them to official notice.

F. C. H. CLARKE,
Acting Conservator of Forests.

Office of the Conservator of Forests,
Colombo, April 14, 1888.

PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION FOR 1887.

CHAPTER I.—STATISTICAL SUMMARY.

THE year under review has been in many respects one of great encouragement.

For some time past until the year 1886 I have had to deal with falling numbers in our Aided and Government schools, largely owing to the generally depressed state of the country, aided by sickness more or less widespread, and other minor causes.

But the turn for the better, which commenced in our schools during 1886, has more than continued during the year 1887, there being an increase of 8,082 scholars and of 176 schools sending returns to this Department; the number of schools in 1886 being 3,455 with 112,472 scholars, while the figures for 1887 rose to 3,631 schools with 120,554 scholars.

2. Taking these figures in detail, there were 440 Government schools in operation during 1887, representing 32,565 children (of whom 27,560 were *boys* and 5,005 *girls*), as compared with 425 Government schools with 29,653 children (25,059 *boys* and 4,594 *girls*) in 1886—an increase of 2,912 children (2,501 *boys* and 411 *girls*) and of 15 schools.

This increase has not been obtained by any increase of expenditure, for no vote was allowed for any new Government schools during the year; and the expenditure item on Government schools has actually been rather less in 1887 than 1886, as will be seen in the table given in the Financial Chapter. It has simply been the result of a re-adjusting of the vote for existing Government schools, so as to enable me to open new schools in outlying districts, and occasionally in important centres, from funds set free by the closing of other Government schools which did not appear to me worth keeping up.

3. Of Grant-in-aid schools there were 899, against 904 in 1886, the number of children being 62,995 (of whom 44,819 were *boys* and 18,176 were *girls*), as compared with 59,863 children in 1886 (43,010 *boys* and 16,853 *girls*). There was thus a decrease of 5 schools but an increase of 3,132 scholars (1,809 *boys* and 1,323 *girls*).

But it should be remembered that of the 904 Aided schools in 1886 no less than 55 schools, with 1,908 scholars, were unable to present themselves for examination, *whereas all the* 899 *schools above recorded for* 1887 *have been examined*, any school not presenting itself being now removed from the list of Aided schools.

Looking therefore at the aided schools *presented for examination*, which is the real test of progress, we have an increase of 50 schools and 5,040 scholars over the numbers examined in 1886.

This increase caused increased expenditure, Aided schools being paid on the Result Payment System, and not like Government schools, where a fixed sum for the teacher's salary is allotted to each school. The question of expenditure will be dealt with in the chapter on Administration.

4. Turning to Unaided schools, 1,749 *pansala* schools sent in returns for 1887, as against 1,684 in 1886, but the number of children (all boys) attending such schools was 9,042 only in 1887, as compared with 10,379 in 1886—an increase of 63 schools but a decrease of 1,337 scholars.

These *pansala* schools are well-nigh hopeless on their present system. I shall recur to the subject in the chapter on Administration.

5. Of Unaided *private* schools, returns were received from 543 schools in 1887, representing 15,952 children (12,557 *boys* and 3,395 *girls*), as compared with 442 schools in 1886 with 12,577 children (9,981 *boys* and 2,596 *girls*)—being an increase for the year 1887 of 101 schools and of 3,375 children (2,576 *boys* and 799 *girls*).

6. It is instructive to note that, while the average number of scholars in Government schools is 74, and in Grant-in-aid schools 69, the figures fall to 29 in *private* schools, and to little over 5 in *pansala* schools.

7. The average cost per head to the revenue of each boy in a Government school was Rs. 5·79 gross and Rs. 5·30½ net during 1887, as compared with Rs. 6·20 gross and Rs. 5·58 net in 1886. This indicates a continuance of the gradually decreasing cost of scholars in our Government schools, which I have previously been able to report. Similarly, each girl in a Government school cost Rs. 3·73 gross (and the same amount net) in 1887, against Rs. 5·87 gross and Rs. 5·35 net in 1886.

In Grant-in-aid schools each scholar cost the revenue Rs. 2·97 per head in 1887, against Rs. 3·02 in 1886.

8. The following tabular returns afford at a glance a summarised comparison of the progress of Government, Aided, and Unaided schools since the year 1870 :—

Return of Schools Presented for Examination.

Years.	Government Schools.				Grant-in-Aid Schools.				Total.			
	Schools.	Scholars.	Increase.	Decrease.	Schools.	Scholars.	Increase.	Decrease.	Schools.	Scholars.	Increase.	Decrease.
1870 ...	156	8,726	—	—	229	8,201	—	—	385	16,927	—	—
1871 ...	180	10,449	1,723	—	314	19,416	11,215	—	494	29,865	12,938	—
1872 ...	200	10,852	403	—	402	25,443	6,027	—	602	36,295	6,430	—
1873 ...	241	11,598	746	—	528	32,594	7,151	—	769	44,192	7,897	—
1874 ...	243	11,719	121	—	595	35,559	2,965	—	838	47,278	3,086	—
1875 ...	276	12,776	1,057	—	654	41,343	5,784	—	930	54,199	6,921	—
1876 ...	301	15,115	2,339	—	697	45,422	4,079	—	998	60,537	6,338	—
1877 ...	329	15,677	562	—	730	47,142	1,720	—	1,059	62,819	2,282	—
1878 ...	356	17,896	2,219	—	772	49,854	2,712	—	1,128	67,750	4,931	—
1879 ...	372	19,120	1,224	—	814	55,944	6,090	—	1,186	75,064	7,314	—
1880 ...	369	21,294	2,174	—	833	59,820	3,876	—	1,202	81,114	6,050	—
1881 ...	398	23,626	2,332	—	839	61,131	1,311	—	1,237	84,757	3,643	—
1882 ...	421	26,597	2,971	—	832	62,842	1,711	—	1,253	89,439	4,682	—
1883 ...	437	27,656	1,059	—	836	61,374	—	1,468	1,273	89,030	—	409
1884 ...	431	27,677	21	—	814	59,776	—	1,598	1,245	87,453	—	1,577
1885 ...	417	26,624	—	1,053	819	57,320	—	2,456	1,236	83,944	—	3,509
1886 ...	425	29,653	3,029	—	849	57,955	635	—	1,274	87,608	3,664	—
1887 ...	440	32,565	2,912	—	899	62,995	5,040	—	1,339	95,560	7,952	—

Return of Grant-in-aid Schools not presented for Examination.

Years.	Schools.	Scholars.	Increase.	Decrease.
1884 ...	15 ...	837 ...	— ...	—
1885 ...	47 ...	1,598 ...	761 ...	—
1886 ...	55 ...	1,908 ...	310 ...	—
1887 ...	— ...	— ...	— ...	1,908
		Unaided Schools.		
1870 ...	279 ...	6,838 ...	— ...	—
1871 ...	635 ...	8,490 ...	1,652 ...	—
1872 ...	365 ...	9,435 ...	945 ...	—
1873 ...	393 ...	11,935 ...	2,500 ...	—
1874 ...	329 ...	9,929 ...	— ...	2,006
1875 ...	317 ...	10,246 ...	317 ...	—
1876 ...	365 ...	4,255 ...	— ...	5,991
1877 ...	244 ...	5,407 ...	1,152 ...	—
1878 ...	321 ...	4,798 ...	— ...	609
1879 ...	697 ...	6,898 ...	2,100 ...	—
1880 ...	585 ...	7,236 ...	338 ...	—
1881 ...	645 ...	8,874 ...	1,638 ...	—
1882 ...	No return			
1883 ...	652 ...	12,291 ...	3,417 ...	—
1884 ...	560 ...	13,265 ...	974 ...	—
1885 ...	2,134 ...	20,062 ...	6,797 ...	—
1886 ...	2,126 ...	22,956 ...	2,894 ...	—
1887 ...	2,292 ...	24,994 ...	2,038 ...	—

Summing up the above tables for 1886 and 1887, we have the following comparative result :—

	1886.	1887.	Increase.	Decrease.
Scholars in Government schools ...	29,653 ...	32,565 ...	2,912 ...	—
Scholars in Grant-in-aid schools examined ...	57,955 ...	62,995 ...	5,040 ...	—
Scholars in Grant-in-aid schools not examined ...	1,908 ...	— ...	— ...	1,908
Scholars in Unaided schools ...	22,956 ...	24,994 ...	2,038 ...	—
Total scholars in Ceylon...	112,472	120,554	9,990	1,908
			1,908	
		Net Increase ...	8,082	

CLASSIFICATION OF SCHOOLS.

9. The following tables classify as English, Anglo-vernacular, and Vernacular (comparatively, for the years 1887 and 1886) the schools and scholars, Government and Grant-in-aid, *which were examined* during each year. They show also the number of pupils in average daily attendance, as compared with the number on the list of the schools and under nominal instruction :—

1887.	No. of Schools.	No. of Boys on the List.	No. of Girls on the List.	Total No. of Boys and Girls on the List.	Total No. of Scholars in Average Attendance.
Government.					
English ...	3	333	—	333	292
Anglo-vernacular ...	25	2,412	278	2,690	1,677
Vernacular ...	412	24,875	4,667	29,542	16,288
Grant-in-aid.					
English ...	84	6,368	1,406	7,774	5,571
Anglo-vernacular ...	71	4,477	1,278	5,755	3,569
Vernacular ...	744	33,974	15,492	49,466	28,854
Total ...	1,339	72,439	23,121	95,560	56,251

1886.	No. of Schools.	No. of Boys on the List.	No. of Girls on the List.	Total No. of Boys and Girls on the List.	Total No. of Scholars in Average Attendance.
Government.					
English	3	372	—	372	314
Anglo-vernacular ...	26	2,572	247	2,819	1,639
Vernacular	396	22,115	4,347	26,462	14,368
Grant-in-aid.					
English	88	6,320	1,424	7,744	5,413
Anglo-vernacular ...	61	3,806	943	4,749	2,953
Vernacular	700	31,672	13,790	45,462	26,045
	1,274	66,857	20,751	87,608	50,732

I have still to complain of the average attendance, which is not by any means what it should be in the vernacular schools; but the following table shows that the number of children *presented for examination* in vernacular schools compares most favourably, not only for 1886, but with 1885, and, I may add, with all previous years :—

Number of Children examined.

	1885.	1886.	1887.
In Government English Schools :—			
Standard I.	7	2	1
Do. II.	4	4	5
Do. III.	—	3	2
Do. IV.	—	1	—
Do. V.	5	—	—
Do. VI.	—	5	3
Do. VII.	—	—	—
Do. VIII	—	—	—
	16*	15*	11*
In Government Anglo-vernacular Schools :—			
Standard I.	319	347	431
Do. II.	294	340	281
Do. III.	223	240	237
Do. IV.	178	178	166
Do. V.	113	123	107
Do. VI.	66	72	80
Do. VII.	46	46	41
Do. VIII.	32	30	34
	1,271	1,376	1,377
In Government Vernacular Schools :—			
Standard I.	3,745	4,059	4,689
Do. II.	3,336	3,393	3,512
Do. III.	2,122	2,262	2,272
Do. IV.	1,278	1,329	1,380
Do. V.	565	742	727
Do. VI.	306	310	400
Do. VII.	83	136	170
Do. VIII.	26	41	73
	11,461	12,272	13,223
In Grant-in-aid English Schools :—			
Standard I.	644	585	685
Do. II.	711	710	764
Do. III.	749	692	742
Do. IV.	799	681	676
Do. V.	675	654	605
Do. VI.	467	493	516
Do. VII.	348	339	371
Do. VIII.	178	200	208
	4,571	4,354	4,567
In Grant-in-aid Anglo-vernacular Schools :—			
Standard I.	421	483	731
Do. II.	426	531	571
Do. III.	345	461	552
Do. IV.	287	370	439
Do. V.	262	292	331
Do. VI.	240	252	283
Do. VII.	214	185	207
Do. VIII.	91	147	126
	2,286	2,721	3,240
In Grant-in-aid Vernacular Schools :—			
Standard I.	7,165	7,174	8,331
Do. II.	6,432	6,392	6,580
Do. III.	4,259	4,417	4,687
Do. IV.	2,694	2,801	3,029
Do. V.	1,498	1,642	1,806
Do. VI.	634	655	811
Do. VII.	266	266	288
Do. VIII.	77	105	136
	23,025	23,452	25,618

* NOTE.—These figures refer only to the Railway Night School. The Royal College and the School of Agriculture are not examined by Inspectors, but by special Examiners appointed from time to time, and are not therefore included in this return.

Total :—	1885.	1886.	1887.
Standard I.	12,301	12,650	14,868
Do. II.	11,203	11,370	11,663
Do. III.	7,698	8,075	8,492
Do. IV.	5,236	5,360	5,690
Do. V.	3,118	3,453	3,576
Do. VI.	1,713	1,787	2,093
Do. VII.	957	972	1,077
Do. VIII.	404	523	577
	42,630	44,190	48,036

10. The distribution of the above scholars under the heads *Primary* (*i. e.*, Standards I. to V.), *Middle* (*i. e.*, Standards VI. to VIII.), and *High* (*i. e.*, Specific Subjects, &c.), is as follows :—

	Primary.	Middle.	High.
English Schools ...	3,480	1,098	934
Anglo-vernacular Schools ...	3,846	771	287
Vernacular Schools ...	36,963	1,878	291
	44,289	3,747	1,512

PROVINCIAL DISTRIBUTION OF SCHOOLS AND SCHOLARS.

11. The geographical distribution of schools and scholars, Government, Grant-in-aid, and Unaided, and the proportion of the population in each Province which is under instruction, appears from the following table :—

	Western Province.		Southern Province.		Northern Province.		Eastern Province.		Central Province.		North-Western Province.		Province of Uva.		North-Central Province.		Total.	
	Schools.	Pupils.	Schools.	Pupils.	Schools.	Pupils.	Schools.	Pupils.	Schools.	Pupils.	Schools.	Pupils.	Schools.	Pupils.	Schools.	Pupils.	Schools.	Pupils.
Government.																		
English ...	3	333	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	333
A.-vernacular	14	1639	4	466	—	—	—	—	7	585	—	—	—	—	—	—	25	2690
Vernacular ...	253	19186	62	4253	4	63	12	697	44	3327	17	1129	10	487	10	400	412	29542
Total ...	270	21158	66	4719	4	63	12	697	51	3912	17	1129	10	487	10	400	440	32565
Aided Schools.																		
English ...	28	3308	15	1498	20	1525	6	437	9	731	5	212	1	63	—	—	84	7774
A.-vernacular	19	1552	10	998	31	2499	4	214	5	368	1	82	1	42	—	—	71	5755
Vernacular ...	252	19471	55	3613	264	16918	78	4295	41	2042	41	2531	10	456	3	140	744	49466
Total ...	299	24331	80	6109	315	20942	88	4946	55	3141	47	2825	12	561	3	140	899	62995
Unaided.																		
English ...	25	1045	4	169	2	220	1	15	2	90	6	171	2	48	—	—	42	1758
A.-vernacular	23	964	9	469	—	—	—	—	7	241	—	—	—	—	—	—	39	1674
Vernacular ...	460	6709	510	5940	36	1115	91	2005	359	2380	610	2695	127	615	18	103	2211	21562
Total ...	508	8718	523	6578	38	1335	92	2020	368	2711	616	2866	129	663	18	103	2292	24994
Grand Total...	1077	54207	669	17406	357	22340	192	7663	474	9764	680	6820	151	1711	31	643	3631	120554
Population ...	897,329		433,520		302,500		127,555		473,669		293,327		165,692		66,146		2,759,738	
Population of children under instruction to population for 1887	1 in 16		1 in 24		1 in 13		1 in 16		1 in 48		1 in 43		1 in 96		1 in 102		1 in 22	
Do. 1886	1 in 17		1 in 31		1 in 13		1 in 17		1 in 53		1 in 42		1 in 114		1 in 146		1 in 24	

It will be seen that the proportion of children attending school to the whole population, adult and otherwise, is improving steadily, being now for the whole Island 1 in every 22, whereas in 1886 it was 1 in 24, in 1885 1 in 26, and in 1884 1 in 27.

The Northern Province continues to rank first with one child attending school out of every 13 of the total population; the Western and Eastern Provinces come second with 1 in 16 each (last year they had 1 in 17); the Southern Province next with an improvement of 1 in 24 as against 1 in 31 in 1886; the North-Western Province next with 1 in 43, a falling back of 1, as last year the figures were 1 in 42; then follows the Central Province with 1 in 48, against 1 in 53 in 1886; while the Province of Uva and the North-Central Province bring up the rear with 1 in 96 and 1 in 102, respectively: but both these backward provinces show a great improvement, as in 1886 the figures for Uva were 1 in 114 and in 1885 1 in 158, while for the North-Central Province the figures were in 1886, 1 in 146, and for 1885, 1 in 188, while the number of children attending school in these two provinces has nearly doubled in the last two years. In the Province of Uva, if it were not for a decrease in the numbers attending those unsatisfactory institutions, *Pansala schools*, the numbers would have quite doubled, the numbers of scholars in aided schools under the management of the Rev. S. Langdon of the Wesleyan Mission and of the Rev. G. Pinchin of the S.P.G. having progressed most favourably from 273 to 561, while the number of children attending Government schools has risen from 252 to 487. There are thus in schools connected with Government 1,048 children in this benighted province, where there were 525 a year ago.

In the Western Province the chief progress has been in the comparatively backward districts of Ratnapura and Kégalla, while it is satisfactory to note that the difficulties attending school buildings in the Southern Province, which I had to record in my last two reports, have now nearly disappeared, and though the number of Government schools remains the same in that district, the number of scholars in those same schools has risen from 4,586 to 4,719.

GRANT-IN-AID TRAINING SCHOOLS.

12. The annexed returns show the number of Queen's scholars admitted to the various grant-in-aid training schools for teachers, and the result of the examination of these Queen's scholars after their first and second years' training. A fair number of student teachers are trained in these grant-in-aid institutions, the period of training being a course of two years, according to the provisions of the Code. This entitles them to a second class certificate on the successful completion of their training. A certain percentage receive Queen's scholarships on admission to these institutions, the amount of scholarship being Rs. 100 the first year and Rs. 150 the second year. It is to these Queen's scholars only that the returns refer.

Teachers who gain the second class certificate after training in these schools are entitled to a first class certificate after five years' successful service, which carries with it a result payment from the Government in addition to the salaries paid them by their managers.

I reported last year that I expected that this system of result payments, which had only just come into force, would bring forward an increased number of candidates for training, because trained teachers would be placed upon a much better footing as regards payment than those teachers who obtained licenses by examination only, or certificates by mere length of service plus percentage of pupils passed, and I stated that I anticipated that managers of aided schools should thus gain considerably in improved teaching material.

The examination for Queen's scholarships this year has, however, proved a great disappointment to me as regards the *quality* of the candidates presented, as will be seen by comparing the return printed below for 1887 with that for 1886. In fact, only two of the training schools maintained their figures for passes unblemished, viz., Kóṭṭe Church Missionary Society and Jaffna Vembadi (male), the latter indeed having improved its passes for scholarships.

I was, however, very glad to see the sometime dormant Wesleyan Training School of Richmond Hill, in the Southern Province, coming forward, and passing three student teachers for the entrance examination.

The most melancholy failures of all were the newly-established training school under the Wesleyan Mission at Batticaloa and the Jaffna Vembadi (girls), which failed to pass a single student teacher. When it is considered that the percentages of children attending school in the Northern and Eastern Provinces are the two highest in the Island, those failures are most discreditable. I may add that the examination papers set were not one-quarter as difficult as those set to the Government training schools, where every candidate passed, and most of them most creditably; the diminished passes in the grant-in-aid training schools are, therefore, most disheartening. I ought to be able to set the same papers to both Government and Grant-in-aid training schools, but for some time to come this will be clearly impossible without wiping out the Grant-in-aid training institutions altogether; and my policy has always been to increase and foster them. I shall hope for a great improvement next year.

Return of Queen's Scholars in Grant-in-aid Training Schools during 1887.

Training Schools.	Management.	Number of Students who have obtained Queen's Scholarships on passing the Entrance Examination of 1887.	Number of Queen's Scholars who have passed their first year's examination and have earned a Grant of Rs. 100 each.	Number of Queen's Scholars who have passed their second year's examination and have earned a Grant of Rs. 150 each.
Kóṭṭé ...	C.M.S.	2	1	1
Richmond Hill College	Wesleyan	3	—	—
Tillipallai ...	American	4	5	4
Kopay ...	C.M.S.	3	3	1
Colombogam ...	Roman Catholic	2	—	2
Jaffna(Vembadi)(boys)	Wesleyan	5	4	4
Do. (girls)	do.	—	—	—
Kandy ...	S.P.G.	1	—	—
Koṭahéna (Colombo)...	Roman Catholic	—	2	1
Uḍuvil (girls) ...	American	1	1	1
Nellore (girls) ...	C.M.S.	1	1	—
Batticaloa ...	Wesleyan	—	—	—
	Total ...	22	17	14

Return of Queen's Scholars in Grant-in-aid Training Schools during 1886.

Training Schools.	Management.	Number of Students who have obtained Queen's Scholarships on passing the Entrance Examination of 1886.	Number of Queen's Scholars who have passed their first year's examination and have earned a Grant of Rs. 100 each.	Number of Queen's Scholars who have passed their second year's examination and have earned a Grant of Rs. 150 each.
Kóṭṭé ...	C.M.S.	2	1	1
Richmond Hill College	Wesleyan	—	—	—
Tillipallai ...	American	5	5	5
Kopay ...	C.M.S.	3	2	3
Colombogam ...	Roman Catholic	3	3	2
Jaffna(Vembadi)(boys)	Wesleyan	5	4	2
Do. (girls)	do.	1	—	—
Kandy ...	S.P.G.	1	1	1
Koṭahéna (Colombo)...	Roman Catholic	2	3	4
Uḍuvil (girls) ...	American	2	1	—
Nellore (girls) ...	C.M.S.	2	—	—
	Total ...	26	20	18

EXAMINATION FOR GRANT-IN-AID TEACHERS' LICENSES.

13. The following table shows the result of the examination for grant-in-aid teachers' licenses during 1887 :—

First Class Licenses.

	Number Examined.	Number Passed.
Anglo-vernacular (Tamil)	19	5
Do. (Sinhalese)	21	6
Vernacular (Tamil)	35	8
Do. (Sinhalese	78	16
Total ...	153	35

Second Class Licenses.

	Number Examined.	Number Passed.
Vernacular (Tamil)	59	15
Do. (Sinhalese)	110	38
Total ...	169	53

In addition to teachers who obtained licenses by examination as above, 70 teachers in aided schools were awarded certificates under the old rules, which continue in force for three years.

The total number of certificated and licensed teachers employed or eligible for employment in grant-in-aid schools is now no less than 1,230. The total number of grant-in-aid schools is 899, and of these only 232 are vernacular or Anglo-vernacular boys' schools, for which alone the employment of a certificated or licensed head teacher is compulsory as a condition of receiving a grant from Government. And yet there are managers of schools who complain of the hardship of having to employ certificated or licensed teachers, and who profess to look upon the enforcement of this rule as a diabolical contrivance of this Department for the purpose of reducing grants; whereas if such managers would dispense with the services of a few useless, old, so-called teachers of the ancient type, and take on in their place some of these numerous clever, young, certificated and licensed men, they would find their grants considerably increased, and by no means reduced, owing to the improved efficiency of their schools.

I am happy to record, however, that the number of managers who complain of this rule is daily diminishing, and the complainants are now mainly a few older men, who, having years ago entered the lists against all Government measures, are now unable to withdraw from opposition, however beneficial to themselves the measure opposed may really be.

The following return, giving the number of Anglo-vernacular and vernacular boys' schools under each management, and the number of qualified head teachers available for each, will show still more forcibly how little real ground of complaint there is :—

Management.	Number of Vernacular Boys' Schools.	Number of Anglo-Vernacular Boys' Schools.	Number of Certificates or Licenses issued to Grant-in-aid Teachers.
In Sinhalese Districts.			
Roman Catholic	30	—	204
Church Missionary Society	34	4	114
Church of England (Diocesan)	7	5	94
Wesleyan ...	18	4	93
Baptist ...	18	3	53
Buddhist and Private	8	2	25
In Tamil Districts.			
American Mission	19	5	202
Wesleyan ...	21	6	188
Church Missionary Society	20	5	118
Roman Catholic	15	—	86
Sivite and Private	4	4	52
Church of England (Diocesan)	—	—	1
Total ...	194	38	1,230

GOVERNMENT TRAINING SCHOOLS.

14. As regards mere bookwork, the classes for training teachers for Government schools have, in contradistinction to the Grant-in-aid institutions, worked admirably. The examination results were excellent alike at Kandy, Bentota, and Udugampola, every student teacher passing with credit, although some of the papers were decidedly hard, as for Government teachers we desire rather to secure the very best men at all costs, than to pass as many as we conscientiously can, as is the case with grant-in-aid student teachers.

The arithmetic was particularly good, thanks to the close attention and visits paid to these classes by Mr. Inspector Blair, to whom they owe their existence.

But I shall never cease to regret the closing of the old Normal School, where student teachers were boarded and trained under direct daily European supervision, with opportunities for discipline and training, which the present system can never afford.

CHAPTER II.—ADMINISTRATION.

15. One of the most important events of the year has been the decision now arrived at for the reformation of English teaching in primary and middle English schools.

I have long been writing and suggesting concerning the bad English so generally taught in Ceylon, pointing out how absurd it was to teach a native boy his arithmetic, geography, and history in English, a language often not known to him to any appreciable extent when he

joins an English school, and certainly never at all properly known to him till he has reached the higher standards; and I have for some years advised the adopting of the recommendation of the Indian Educational Commission, that English should be taught *as a language* through the medium of the vernacular; that is to say, that, instead of putting a boy down to read English as best as he can, and instead of making him on examination day explain in English to the examiner what he has read in English, as he has to do under the present Code, he should give all explanations in his own language at first, and later on should have to pass in translation, (English being an essentially foreign language to all except to the few European boys at school in this country, and to the sons of the better class of Burghers, who, when compared with the number of Native children attending school, are not very numerous,) while arithmetic, history, and geography should be learned in the vernacular.

16. This system is already in force in Ceylon to a certain extent in what are called Anglo-vernacular schools, but in my opinion enough English is not taught in those schools to give the system fair play, as the highest English class in an Anglo-vernacular school seldom gets beyond very rudimentary English reading.

In fact, in Ceylon our English-teaching schools have, under the present Code, been placed between the Scylla of trying to teach native boys as if they were English-born boys in English schools, with the result of leaving the majority of them ignorant of their own native language, and making them mere fluent smatterers as far as intelligent understanding of English is concerned, and the Charybdis of teaching them their own language well, but the merest minimum of English, in Anglo-vernacular schools.

My idea, therefore, was to combine the elementary English schools and the Anglo-vernacular schools into one improved system, whereby both English and the Native languages should be thoroughly taught; and we should no longer have Sinhalese young men speaking bastard English without the ability to understand it, and at the same time unable to write a decent letter in Sinhalese as the result of English schools; nor, on the other hand, a number of young men who have got to the top of an Anglo-vernacular school, who can scarcely talk English at all, and who can hardly read it except in a school primer previously learned by heart.

In short, I wish the class of natives who learn English to know both English and their own language thoroughly, and neither to the exclusion of the other, thus largely going back to the old system of teaching English which prevailed in Ceylon, and produced many excellent scholars, before the introduction of the present Code, but endeavouring to utilise what is best in the present system.

I had often informally communicated with managers of schools on the point, and I was aware that most of them agreed with me in the main, though with almost endless differences as to detail. I was, however, also aware that a large number hesitated *in limine*, fearing to commit themselves to any change, however desirable, lest it should injure the grants of their schools, many of them having teachers who were unable to teach more than one language.

17. It did not seem to me, however, that this state of affairs ought to stand in the way of what I believed to be a real need for, and benefit to, the country. Plenty of teachers were available to take the place of any who were incompetent, and, with competent teachers, grants should be as easily earned under the new system as under the old. Moreover, the Government had some years ago decided to retire from English teaching where possible without detriment to the country, devoting its funds to the more universally needed development of village vernacular education, and leaving English teaching to private enterprise, now abundant owing to the present commercial value of English. Grants for English education, therefore, hung very much in the balance, and, in cases where I reported the English taught to be bad and useless, they were liable to be withdrawn altogether. From a mere money point of view, therefore, it was to the real interest of managers that a reform should take place. Though I would here record a most emphatic protest against the rapidly growing tendency of placing a money-value limitation upon education. "If a boy knows *enough* English, *enough* Latin, or what not, to earn a grant under the Code, never mind the rest!" That is a view which too frequently is taken by some school managers, and I regret to say it has been recently taken by the manager of a leading Grant-in-aid High school in this country, who, in criticising some examination papers, has stated it to be the proper object of an examiner *not* "to see how much or how little a boy knows" (of course within Code limits), but rather to "ascertain whether he has *sufficiently complied with the requirements of the Code to deserve a grant.*" If once managers determine to teach only up to the mere minimum limits of a Code, and only "sufficiently" to earn a grant, there is an end to any real education at all, as it seems to me.

18. However, to bring matters to a head as regards English teaching, I issued a circular to managers on April 30, 1887, in which I enclosed a draft schedule of subjects which I proposed should be taught in English schools, the schedule being so arranged as to provide for a better knowledge of English, and at the same time to compel the keeping up of the native languages. Upon this draft schedule I invited remarks, and, on the receipt of such remarks and opinions (some of them very valuable) I called a Conference of Managers for October 26, in order to come to some final settlement.

The basis of discussion which I fixed for the Conference was as follows:—

(*a*) The abolition of the present system of Anglo-vernacular schools, wherein the teaching of English is not recognised until scholars have reached standard V.

(*b*) The abolition of the present system of primary English schools, wherein the vernacular is not recognised in the first five standards.

(*c*) The adoption in place of the two above-mentioned classes of schools of one new style of school to be called "Primary English," the details of which I specified in a schedule on the lines mentioned in my circular of April 30.

(*d*) A revision of the list of English High schools, so as to have a limited number of thoroughly efficient High schools, while all other English schools should be on the new primary type.

(*e*) The question, whether a minimum rate of tuition fee should be fixed by the Department for English schools, so as to avoid the frequent complaints of one manager underbidding another in school fees, with the result of cheapening English teaching to the risk of inefficiency (tuition fees being at present entirely at the option of the manager of each particular aided school).

19. On the meeting of the Conference I first put the question to managers as to whether some reform was or was not needed in the present system of teaching English in Anglo-vernacular and primary and middle English schools. The reply to this was unanimously in the affirmative from managers of the schools affected (though some preferred to use the word "improvement" rather than "reform"); but managers of High schools objected.

As, however, High schools were not touched by the scheme beyond a revision of their list, and beyond being likely to be recruited from primary schools by a better class of boys, I went upon the unanimity of the managers affected, and I proceeded to lay my draft schedule, embodying my proposals of reform, before them.

The Rev. John Scott, Chairman of the Wesleyan Mission, then moved an amended schedule of reform prepared by him, and the amended schedule was carried almost unanimously on being seconded by the Roman Catholic Archbishop.

The proposal as to school fees was thrown out. I did not insist upon it in any way, as it was, unlike the question of teaching, entirely a matter for managers to decide for themselves.

The resolution of managers upon Mr. Scott's amended schedule was, however, somewhat stultified by the reverend gentleman writing to me as soon as the proceedings of the Conference were published, to say that the schedule attributed to him as printed was not what he intended. On comparing the printed copy with that handed in at the Conference by Mr. Scott they were, however, found to be identical.

In reporting to the Government I therefore slightly amended my own schedule, so as to meet all objections which I considered reasonable, and I then advised the Government to adopt it, unless they were prepared to retire from giving grants-in-aid to English altogether,—a course which I did not recommend, as I held it to be our duty to retain the power of guiding English teaching into better channels, a power which we should lose if we ceased to give grants, but which we could use under the Code so long as grants were given to English schools.

20. The following schedule was accordingly sanctioned by the Government, and is to come into force on January 1, 1889, in place of the schedules in the existing Code for Anglo-vernacular schools and primary and middle English schools :—

[*For Schedule see next page.*]

SUCCESS OF BRANCH AGRICULTURAL SCHOOLS.

21. But perhaps a still more important administrative measure has been the opening of six branch agricultural schools at the commencement of the year. Details of their working will be found in the chapter on Agricultural and Technical Education, but I may here record that these branch schools have succeeded to an extent that I had scarcely dared to hope for, and I do hope that I have now been able to establish agricultural education on a basis sufficiently firm to be lasting; it was met with much cavilling and captious criticisms when I first started it in 1884, and many high officials doubted whether anything could be taught to the native agriculturist, who probably knew what was best for his farming operations in this country and climate much better than I could teach him; but I am thankful to be able to record now almost universal support. It has begun to be recognised now here, as in England, that an average boy may go through all the standards in an ordinary school without at the end of his educational course being necessarily able to earn sixpence a day; and it is felt that something more, whether in the shape of technical or other special education, is needed in these days.

22. So much for progress and encouragement. I have now to turn to disappointments.

FAILURE OF EFFORTS TO OBTAIN THE GILCHRIST SCHOLARSHIP OF £150 FOR TECHNICAL EDUCATION.

23. It will be remembered that in my last report I wrote as follows :—

In the month of June, the Secretary of the Gilchrist Educational Trust complained of the "indifferent competition, especially in India, for the scholarship of £150 per annum at present offered to youths in India and Ceylon," and it was intimated that the present scholarship would be withdrawn after the examination of January, 1888, and inquiries were made as to the best method of re-constituting the scholarship so as to render it an object of keener rivalry.

This appeared to me an opportunity not to be lost, and after a conference with a number of our leading school authorities, and with the Director of Public Works and the Surveyor-General, I addressed the Government on the subject, requesting that the Gilchrist Trust might be asked to remodel the conditions of the scholarship, and to permit the successful candidate to pursue his studies at such engineering institution as might be selected by the Trust, provided that the institution granted a recognised diploma. This proviso was made with a view to enabling the Director of Public Works and the Surveyor-General to admit Ceylon-born young men who should hereafter win the Gilchrist Scholarship, into those Scientific Departments on the same terms as a qualified Englishman can now join. At present, from want of the required qualifications, a young man entering these Departments from a Ceylon school can only end, in point of salary, pretty much where the qualified man from England now joins.

The Government endorsed the recommendation, but expanded it so as to apply to technical education generally, without specifying particular subjects, leaving the scholar to choose, though Forestry and Agriculture were also named by the Government.

If the Gilchrist Trustees agree to this, it will be a great step gained for Ceylon-born young men, and with the prospect of higher employment in the Scientific Departments, the competition for the Gilchrist Scholarship should be keen.

I have now to add that the Secretary of State approved of the recommendation, but that the Gilchrist Educational Trust has taken no steps in the matter, and, on the attention of the Trustees being invited to the proposal, this Government was informed that the Trustees had not yet considered the question, and consequently there will be no scholarship for 1889 at any rate.

[*Continued on page* 31.]

Schedule sanctioned by the Government for Primary English Schools on a Vernacular Basis.

Standard.	Value of Grant.	In English. Reading.	Value of Grant.	In English. Writing.	Value of Grant.	In English. Grammar.	Value of Grant.	In English. Composition.	Value of Grant.	In any Language. Arithmetic.	Value of Grant.	In the Vernacular. Geography.	Value of Grant.	In the Vernacular. History.	Total Value of Grants.
	Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c		Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c.
I. ...	1 50	A few sentences from a First Book (at least 30 pages) distinctly and accurately pronounced. Corresponding words in the vernacular to be known.	1 50	Same as existing Code.	—	—	—	—	1 50	Same as existing Code.	—	—	—	—	4 50
II. ...	1 50	A few sentences from a Second Book slowly and distinctly read. Corresponding words in the vernacular to be known.	1 50	do.	—	—	—	—	1 50	do.	—	—	—	—	4 50
III. ...	1 50	Clear and intelligible reading from a Third Book. To give an oral paraphrase of what has been read.	1 50	do.	1 50	To the end of Pronouns.	1 0	To make a written translation into English of easy sentences from a Siphalese or Tamil First Reader.	1 50	do.	—	—	—	—	7 0
IV. ...	1 50	Good and intelligent reading from a Fourth Book. To explain the meaning of words in English as well as in the vernacular, and to give an intelligent paraphrase in the vernacular of what has been done.	1 50	do.	1 50	To the end of Verbs.	1 50	To make a written translation into English of a passage from a Siphalese or Tamil Reading Book not above standard II. Such book to be brought by the Inspector.	1 50	do.	1 0	Same as existing Code.	—	—	8 50
V. ...	1 50	The same, from a Fifth Book.	1 50	do.	1 50	The foregoing and elementary syntax.	1 50	To make a written translation into English from a Siphalese or Tamil Reading Book not above standard III., to be brought by the Inspector.	1 50	do	1 50	do.	1 0	Same as existing Code.	10 0

FAILURE OF THE MOVEMENT IN FAVOUR OF THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION SCHEME.

24. I pointed out last year that in too many cases, almost in every case, education ceases in this country when school is left, and that those few valuable years following next upon school life are, for all practical purpose, generally wasted.

I proceeded to record that Miss Frédoux and Mr. Pieris had been in communication with me upon the subject of the possibility of bringing Ceylon under the Cambridge University Extension Scheme, and that I was endeavouring to secure the formation of a nucleus of persons, male and female, who would guarantee the Cambridge fee, so that I might procure from Cambridge a course of lectures for each term ready written out, thus securing the latest English talent for Ceylon ; these lectures could be read by qualified persons in Ceylon (who might be called pro-lecturers), class questioning following, and papers being done weekly by those attending the lectures—the papers to be looked over by the Ceylon pro-lecturer.

I regret to say that this scheme has also fallen through, not meeting with much encouragement at Cambridge, and finding only lukewarm support here amongst the persons whom it was designed to reach.

KINDERGARTEN TEACHING.

25. The question of adapting the European method of Kindergarten to the teaching of young native children under six years of age also hangs fire, but I do not despair of seeing it in Ceylon at some future date.

THE "THREE-FOURTHS CIRCULAR."

26. A further disappointment, and one affecting not only me and a few persons interested in particular schemes, but one which extends to all managers of aided schools, has been the decision of Government, unavoidable though it was, that it must be laid down as an absolute rule that the vote for aided schools granted in the Supply Bill by the Legislature shall not under any circumstances be exceeded, and the consequent circular which it became necessary to issue stating that, to avoid over-expenditure on this vote, I should after January 1, 1888, only pay three-fourths of the grants immediately after the examination of a school, the balance being paid, if possible, in full, but if not by a *pro rata* distribution, when the accounts are made up at the end of the financial year.

This action was rendered necessary by the frequent over-expenditure of this Department on grants-in-aid, and by my having been obliged, under the circumstances detailed in paragraph 3, chapter 1., of this Report, to ask for a larger supplementary vote for 1887 than usual. These grants being payable for results of examination are in nowise fixed, and it is impossible to estimate them at all exactly, varying as they do from good or bad examinations, from the number of children presented to the Inspector, from the health of the country, and from other causes. (As a matter of fact the actual over-expenditure on this vote for 1887 was Rs. 8,499·75).

Thus the matter stands in this way. This Department cannot guarantee to the Government that there shall be no over-expenditure on this grant-in-aid vote, unless indeed the vote be much increased, while on the other hand the Government cannot consent to remain in a state of annual uncertainty as to what amount of supplementary vote I may ask for at the last moment. If savings on the side of Establishments could only be credited to the grant-in-aid vote, matters would be simplified, but this is against all rule, and there were thus only two courses open—one being the course adopted, and the other being the cutting down of the rate of grants, which would have been infinitely harder upon managers than the action actually taken, because, if the rate of grant were cut down, managers would at once certainly and permanently lose money, while under the circular it is hoped that they will lose nothing, or at any rate only a very little, full payment being only deferred. The vote amounts to Rs. 170,000 for 1888, as against Rs. 167,000 for 1887.

Managers in the main, however, have taken a desponding view of affairs. They have assumed that they will only get "fifteen shillings in the pound," or little more ; they have held an indignation meeting, have sent a deputation to the Governor, and have, many of them, semi-boycotted me, while I have received notice of prosecution for breach of contract ; and when I make suggestions for the improvement of teaching, I am not unfrequently met with the cry of "You are reducing our grants—leave us alone."

I need scarcely say how thoroughly disheartening this attitude is to me as the person most interested in education in this Colony, more deeply and more really interested probably than almost any manager of schools.

PANSALA SCHOOLS.

27. My final disappointment is the apparently hopeles state of Pansala schools. Writing in my report for 1885, I quoted the recommendation contained in paragraph 28 of the Report of the Buddhist Temporalities Commissioners, viz., that "the fund of each viháré should be devoted, first, to the maintenance of the viháré and pansala ; secondly, to making moderate provision for the incumbent ; thirdly, to the maintenance, when funds are sufficient, of a village school in connection with the viháré."

In my opinion, with a very little money, and with supervision and conditions exacted before this money were paid over (as in ordinary grant schools), the existing Pansala schools might be made very good "village schools in conection with the viháras"—and, as I stated in that same Administration Report for 1885, I then asked the Government if legislation could not be undertaken to provide the Department with the funds indicated by the Buddhist Temporalities Commissioners ; and if these funds were procured, I proposed to reform and strengthen Pansala schools in the Kandyan Provinces by working them on special lines, which could be laid down by a short Code for Pansala schools. Such a Code would provide—

(1) That Pansala schools which would comply with certain conditions should receive a grant-in-aid. (The amount of grant would depend upon the sum provided by legislation, as it would be paid from that fund only.)

(2) That the conditions of grant be—

(a) That there should be a *lay* teacher competent to teach, in the vernacular, reading, writing, arithmetic, geography, and the history of Ceylon. (The *priest* would teach his religious subjects undisturbed. Three hours a day would be plenty for the secular subjects: and even now the priest seldom teaches his religious subjects for more than an hour.)

(b) That there should be an average attendance of (say) fifteen scholars.

(c) That no Pansala school should receive a grant if within five miles of an existing Government or Grant-in-aid school. (I desire to reform Pansala schools where there is nothing better to be had; not to create new Pansala schools in opposition to other educational bodies and better educational systems.)

(3) That the grant should generally be in the form of a result payment for each boy who passed in any one of the secular subjects above specified. (No grant would be paid for religious subjects to Pansala schools any more than to other Grant-in-aid schools.)

(4) That in the Province of Uva, being educationally backward, a capitation grant be paid for *each boy presented for examination* in the secular subjects, in addition to result payments. (This grant would, I hope, after a time become unnecessary. I object to capitation grants, and I have only proposed it as a temporary special aid in this special instance.)

(5) That the grant obtained by a Pansala school be primarily devoted to paying the salary of the lay teacher.

I still think that if action can be taken upon the above lines we should insure both better and more useful teaching and better attendance, because all Government aid would be conditional upon there being a lay teacher who knew his work, which most of the priests do not, and the better the teaching the larger the grant would be; while the numbers of scholars ought largely to increase, as the more presented for examination the more money would be earned, and the lay teacher in his own interests would pay that attention to securing a proper attendance which the priests do not; and the teacher would work under favourable conditions, as the people would require little pressure to induce them to send their children to pansalas. But I much fear that no such action can be taken by the Government, and that it will be impossible to provide this Department with any funds in the manner contemplated by the Buddhist Temporalities Commissioners, and hoped for by me.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CODE FOR 1888.

28. It now remains to record the amendments sanctioned by the Government in 1887 for the Code for Aided Schools for 1888:—

Code for 1887.	*Amendments for 1888.*
20. Before any grant is made to a school the Department must be satisfied that— (a) (b) (c) The girls in a girls' school are taught plain needle work as part of the ordinary course of instruction.	20. (c) After "instruction" add the words "and that the head teacher is a female."
50. After the 1st day of January, 1888, no grant will be continued to any vernacular or Anglo-vernacular boys' school which is not in charge of a teacher holding a certificate or license of the Department.	50. After the 1st day of January, 1888, no grant will be continued to any vernacular or Anglo-vernacular boys' school which is not in charge of a teacher holding a certificate or license of the Department in terms of the foregoing clauses; that is to say, a vernacular primary boys' school to earn a grant must be taught by a head teacher holding a third class certificate or a second class license, and a vernacular middle boys' school must be taught by a head teacher holding a second class certificate or a first class license, while an Anglo-vernacular boys' school must be taught by a head teacher holding an Anglo-vernacular certificate or license. Provided always that in the case of schools in backward or remote districts special circumstances may be submitted, and the Governor may dispense with the required certificate or license.
83. If the time-table of an English school in use throughout the year has provided for one or more specific subjects of secular instruction according to the table in schedule C— (a) A grant may be made for every such scholar presented in standards VI., VII., VIII., who passes a satisfactory examination in not more than two of such subjects besides drawing. The grant for a pass in stage 1 shall be Rs. 2 for each subject; in stage 2, Rs. 4 for each subject; in stage 3, Rs. 6 for each subject.	83. If the time-table of a school in use throughout the year has provided for one or more specific subjects of secular instruction according to the table in schedule C— (a) A grant may be made for every such scholar presented in standards VI., VII., VIII., who passes a satisfactory examination in not more than two of such subjects besides drawing. The grant for a pass in stage 1 shall be Rs. 2 for each subject; in stage 2, Rs. 4 for each subject; in stage 3, Rs. 6 for each subject.
	SCHEDULE C. Add the following specific subjects:— (1) Book-keeping—Double Entry—stage I. (2) Domestic Economy (for girls only), stage I., Chapter I.—IV. of Keely's Domestic Economy, and general questions. Stage II., Chapter I.—VII., of ditto, and general questions. Stage III., the whole book, and general questions.

INSPECTION.

29. The Inspectors' districts, and officers employed in them during the year, were as follows :—

A.—*Western District* (Western Province, exclusive of the Kandyan Kégalla District).

Number of schools supported or aided by Government, 547, with 43,971 scholars. Area, 2,805 square miles. Population, 777,374.

Inspector.—Mr. W. Blair.

Assistants.—Mr. R. De Silva, Mr. J. Blok, Mr. A. L. Samarawikkrama, Mr. D. J. Weerasingha, and Mr. S. Welayden.

B.—*North-Eastern District* (Northern and Eastern Provinces).

Number of schools supported or aided by Government, 419, with 26,648 scholars. Area, 6,828 square miles. Population, 430,055.

Inspector.—Mr. A. Van Cuylenburg.

Assistants.—Mr. R. Breckenridge, Mr. L. Manuel, Mr. G. C. Thampapillai, and Mr. D. C. Chellappa.

(I much regret to have to record the death of Mr. Breckenridge. Few of the Native Inspectors were possessed of a more thorough knowledge of Tamil than he was, and he was a faithful servant of Government.)

C.—*Central District* (Central, North-Central, North-Western, and Uva Provinces, and the Kégalla District).

Number of schools supported or aided by Government, 227, with 14,113 scholars. Area, 13,751 square miles. Population, 1,118,789.

Inspector.—Mr. A. Walker.

Assistant.—Mr. D. C. Abeyasekara.

D.—*Southern District* (Southern Province).

Number of schools supported or aided by Government, 146, with 10,828 scholars. Area, 1,980 square miles. Population, 433,520.

Inspector.—Mr. W. H. De Alwis.

CHAPTER III.—SUPERIOR INSTRUCTION.

CAMBRIDGE LOCAL EXAMINATIONS.

30. The open scholarships and exhibitions awarded by the Ceylon Government continue to be awarded upon the results of the Cambridge Local Examinations, which are consequently very popular.

Those scholarships are, "The University Scholarship" of the annual value of £150 sterling, and tenable for four years at one of the recognised English, Scotch, or Irish Universities, together with a free passage to England; and three junior exhibitions, one of Rs. 240 and two of Rs. 120 per annum, tenable for three years at any registered High school in Ceylon.

The "University Scholarship" is awarded on the result of the Senior Cambridge Local Examination to the candidate who, being under 19 years of age, "shall pass the best examination in honours."

The junior exhibitions are awarded to the "three best candidates" under 17 years of age at the Junior Local Examination.

The Cambridge Local Examinations of 1887 were held between December 10 and 17 at the following centres—viz., Colombo, Kandy, Galle, Jaffna, Batticaloa, and Trincomalee. There were 189 candidates, the number being somewhat smaller than last year, as I have now enforced the conditions of age prescribed for this examination by the Code for Ceylon schools.

These conditions were formerly not observed except for honour candidates, but the numbers who annually present themselves are such that no harm can now be done by a little strictness. I have also enforced a small local fee in addition to the Cambridge University fee.

31. The results for the examinations of December, 1886, were received too late for my report of that year. I therefore give now the results for both 1886 and 1887.

In 1886, there were 232 candidates, and 144 passed: 27 senior passes and 117 junior passes.

The Class List was as follows for 1886 :—

Senior Candidates.

Class I.	
F. C. H. Grenier	St. Thomas's College, Colombo
Class II.	
C. W. De Silva	Royal College, Colombo
E. H. Swan	do.
J. M. VanDonberg	St. Thomas's College, Colombo
Class III.	
E. A. Beven	Royal College, Colombo
Don Baron Jayatileke	Wesley College, Colombo
H. J. Mendis	do.
J. T. Muttiah	do.
T. De Silva	Richmond College, Galle
J. S. De Silva	do.

Juniors (between 16 and 17).

Class I.	
H. A. Jayawardana	Royal College, Colombo

Juniors (under 16 years of age).

Class I.—First Division.

H. J. V. Ekanayaka ...	...	...	Wesley College, Colombo
J. P. Salgadoe ...	...	...	St. Thomas's College, Colombo
E. H. Vanderwall ...	...	...	do.

Class I.—Second Division.

C. P. Asarappa ...	...	...	St. Thomas's College, Colombo
K. E. E. Prins ...	...	...	do.

Class II.

C. E. De Vos ...	...	...	Royal College, Colombo
E. H. Prins ...	...	...	do.
C. F. Weinman ...	...	...	do.
G. A. H. Wille ...	...	...	do.
L. A. L. Prins ...	...	...	Trinity College, Kandy

Class III.

C. H. M. Bartholomeusz	...	...	St. John's School, Kalutara
E. Cahill ...	...	...	St. Benedict's Institute, Colombo
C. E. V. Corea ...	...	...	St. Thomas's College, Colombo
W. C. De Silva ...	...	...	Royal College, Colombo
V. Gnanamuttoo ...	...	...	Wesley College, Colombo
P. J. Sproule ...	...	...	St. Thomas's College, Colombo
W. J. Poulis ...	...	...	Richmond College, Galle
E. B. Wikkramanayaka	...	...	do.

And the following candidates obtained distinction in the following subjects, the figures denoting order of merit showing the place which each candidate obtained, not amongst Ceylon candidates only, but amongst all the candidates of England and the other Colonies :—

Distinction List.

ROYAL COLLEGE.

Seniors.

2nd place—C. W. De Silva, distinction in Applied Mathematics.
4th place—E. A. Beven, distinction in Physical Geography.
5th place—C. W. De Silva, do. do.
5th place—E. H. Swan, do. do.
57th place—(æq.) E. A. Beven, distinction in Latin.

Juniors.

1st place—(æq.) A. E. Corea, distinction in Freehand and Model Drawing.
30th place—(æq.) H. A. Jayawardana, distinction in Latin.
58th place—(æq.) C. E. De Vos, distinction in Mathematics.
107th place—(æq.) D. F. Schokman, do. in Latin.
112th place—(æq.) C. F. Weinman, do. in Mathematics.
153rd place—(æq.) C. F. Weinman, do. in Latin.
159th place—(æq.) John L. Perera, do. in Mathematics.

ST. THOMAS'S COLLEGE.

Seniors.

9th place—(æq.) J. M. Van Denberg, distinction in Pure Mathematics.

Juniors.

20th place—J. P. Salgadoe, distinction in Mathematics.
44th place—(æq.) E. H. Vanderwall, distinction in Mathematics.
58th place—(æq.) C. P. Asarappa, do. do.
85th place—(æq.) K. E. E. Prins, do. do.
36th place—(æq.) H. Brown, distinction in Geometrical and Perspective Drawing.
55th place—(æq.) B. S. Martinus, do. do.
133rd place—(æq.) J. P. Salgadoe, distinction in Latin.
133rd place—(æq.) E. H. Vanderwall, do.

WESLEY COLLEGE.

Seniors.

49th place—(æq.) Don Baron Jayatilleka, distinction in Latin.

Juniors.

11th place—(æq.) H. J. V. Ekanayaka, distinction in Freehand and Model Drawing.
153rd place—(æq.) Don J. De Silva, distinction in Latin.
163rd place—(æq.) W. A. De Silva, do. in Mathematics.

RICHMOND COLLEGE.

Seniors.

7th place—J. S. De Silva, distinction in Physical Geography.

PRIVATE STUDY.

Seniors.

17th place—(æq.) J. C. Jansz, distinction in Latin.
37th place—(æq.) C. H. Krickenbeck, distinction in Latin.

In accordance with our rules, the University Scholarship was awarded to Grenier of St. Thomas's College, who obtained "honours" in the shape of a first class, and who was at the head of the list in a confidential order of merit sent to me from Cambridge.

The three junior exihibitions were awarded as follows :—

(1) H. A. Jayawardena (Royal College), Rs. 240.
(2) J. T. Salgadoe (St. Thomas's College), Rs. 120.
(3) E. H. Vanderwall (St. Thomas's College), Rs. 120.

33. Turning to the examination of December, 1887, I now append the Class List only. The order of merit in distinctions has not yet arrived from Cambridge.

It will be seen that the Class List of the seniors is smaller than usual, but this is compensated for by the fact that both the students who are classed are within the Cambridge limits of age. Last year every one of the seniors who was classed was over the Cambridge age, and the class list had to be specially prepared for Ceylon by arrangement with the Cambridge authorities, because our Code does not permit the University Scholarship to be awarded unless honours are obtained.

Singularly enough, however, the case has been reversed in the juniors this year, all the exhibition winners, that is, the first three boys in order of merit, being over the Cambridge age of 16, but under the Ceylon age of 17.

The following is the Class List :—

[NOTE.—The small italic letters denote that a Candidate was distinguished as follows :—*b* = Botany ; *d* = Drawing : *g* = Greek ; *ge* = Physical Geography ; *l* = Latin ; *m* = Mathematics.]

Seniors.

CLASS II.

Stork, E. S.	...	Royal College	...	Colombo

CLASS III.

Parys, W. S.	...	Wesley College	...	Colombo

Juniors (between 16 and 17 years of age).

Class I.—Alphabetical Order.

l g m De Vos, C. E.	...	Royal College	...	Colombo
d Ekanayake, H. J. V.	...	Wesley College	...	do.
m Prins, E. H.	...	Royal College	...	do.
Schokman, D. F.	...	do.	...	do.
m Weinman, C. F.	...	do.	...	do.
l Wille, G. A. H.	...	do.	...	do.

(Under 16 years of age.)

Class I.—Alphabetical Order.

First Division.

m Jayetileke, J. R.	...	Royal College	...	Colombo
l m Salgadoe, J. P.	...	St. Thomas's College	...	do.
m d Sproule, P. J.	...	do.	...	do.

Second Division.

Beven, F. L.	...	Royal College	...	Colombo
m De Silva, W. C.	...	do.	...	do.
Pieris, P. E.	...	St. Thomas's College	...	do.
Prins, L. A. La B.	...	Trinity College	...	Kandy

Class II.

Corea, C. E. V.	...	St. Thomas's College	...	Colombo
Gnanamuttoo, M.	...	Wesley College	...	do.
b Wikramanayaka, E. B.	...	Richmond College	...	Galle

Class III.

Miss Ebert, A. G.	...	Kollupitiya Girls' High School	...	Colombo
Gooneratne, E. V.	...	Royal College	...	do.
Morgan, W. R.	...	St. Thomas's College	...	do.
Murray, A. M.	...	Royal College	...	do.
Tocke, A. W. D.	...	St. Thomas's College	...	do.
Weeeratne, H. W.	...	do.	...	do.

The "University Scholarship" of £150 per annum, tenable for four years at an approved University in the United Kingdom, was awarded to

E. S. Stork	...	...	...	Royal College

The Exhibitions of Rs. 240, Rs. 120, and Rs. 120, awarded to the three students under 17 years of age, who pass the best examination of the Juniors, were awarded as follows :—

1. C. E. De Vos	...	...	...	Royal College
2. H. J. V. Ekanayake	...	...	...	Wesley College
3. C. F. Weinman	...	...	...	Royal College

34. The following table shows the passes gained by the various schools since the institution of the examinations in 1880 :—

College.	Management.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883	1884.	1885.	1886	1887.	Total.
Seniors.										
Royal College ...	Government ...	4	7	4	7	9	7	7	2	47
St. Thomas's College ...	Church of England...	—	—	2	2	4	4	7	5	24
Prince of Wales' College ...	Private ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Wesley College ...	Wesleyan ...	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	1	6
Richmond College ...	Do. ...	—	—	—	—	—		3	1	6
Wesleyan Central Institution, Batticaloa ...	Do. ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Jaffna College ...	American ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
Private Study ...	— ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	5
St. Benedict's Institute ...	Roman Catholic ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
Queen's College ...	— ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1

College.	Management.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.	Total.
Juniors.										
Royal College ...	Government ...	9	15	22	32	31	42	38	25	214
St. Thomas's College ...	Church of England...	4	—	4	6	10	18	23	20	85
Prince of Wales' College ...	Private ...	—	1	2	2	4	3	—	2	14
St. Benedict's Institute ...	Roman Catholic ...	—	1	—	2	—	3	3	2	11
Female Seminary ...	Government ...	—	4	—	7	—	—	—	—	11
Galle Central School ...	Do ...	—	3	2	5	6	—	—	—	16
St. Patrick's College, Jaffna	Roman Catholic ...	—	—	4	—	—	3	—	3	10
St. Paul's School, Kandy ...	Church of England...	—	—	1	1	3	5	2	—	12
Trinity College, Kandy ...	C. M. Society ...	—	—	—	2	4	8	7	5	26
Private Study ...	— ...	—	—	—	3	4	4	3	4	18
Holy Emmanuel Church School	Church of England...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Girton Place Girls' High School	Private ...	—	—	—	6	1	3	2	—	12
Wesleyen Central Institution, Batticaloa ...	Wesleyan ...	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	3
Private High School, Jaffna	Private ...	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
Jaffna College ...	American ...	—	—	—	—	6	3	—	—	9
Richmond College, Galle ...	Wesleyan ...	—	—	—	—	1	4	2	5	12
Wesley College ...	Do. ...		—	—	—	3	9	13	7	32
Queen's College, Kandy ...	Private ...	—	—	—	—	3	3	6	3	15
All Saints' School, Galle ...	Church of England...	—	—	—	—	—	5	2	3	10
St. John's School, Kalutara	Do. ...	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	4	10
Chundicully Seminary ...	C. M. Society ...	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	..	5
Wesleyan Mission Central School, Trincomalee ...	Wesleyan ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
St. Thomas's High School (Boys'), Mátara ...	Church of England...		—	—	—	—	2	2	—	4
School of Agriculture ...	Government ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Kollupitiya Girls' High School	Wesleyan ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	4
St. Thomas's High School (Girls'), Mátara ...	Church of England...	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	1	
Kandy Private Academy ...	— ...	—	—	—	—		—	1	—	1
St. Anthony's Boys' High School	Roman Catholic ...		—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
St. John's School, Pimadure	Church of England...		—	—	—		—	1	1	2
Girls' High School, Kandy	Wesleyan ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	3
Pettah Girls' High School...	Do. ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	4
Galle Girls' High School ...	Do ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Jaffna Native Town High School	Do ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1

EXAMINATIONS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

35. The Matriculation Examination, the Intermediate Examination in Laws, and the Intermediate Examination in Arts of the University of London are now held regularly in Ceylon.

The Matriculation Examination commenced in Colombo on January 10, and terminated on January 14.

The following was the result of this examination as regards Ceylon :—

First Division.

Colvin Thomas Van Geyzel ... ... Royal College, Colombo

Second Division.

Osmond Julian Van Hoff ... ... Royal College, Colombo

No candidate presented himself in Ceylon either for the Intermediate in Laws or the Intermediate in Arts examination during 1887.

THE MATHEMATICAL PRIZE, 1887.

36. The following are the marks obtained by the candidates for the Mathematical Prize of Ceylon, open to all *bonâ fide* pupils of any school in Ceylon under twenty years of age.

The prize was won by Thomas De Silva of Richmond College, Galle.

The examiners were, Mr. A. R. Forsyth, Assistant Tutor, Trinity College, Cambridge (Senior Wrangler, 1881); Mr. R. A. Herman, Mathematical Lecturer, Trinity College, Cambridge (Senior Wrangler, 1882); and Mr. H. L. Crawford, C.C.S.

Order of Merit.	Name of Candidate.	School where educated.	No. of Marks.
		Full Marks...	750
1 ...	Thomas De Silva ...	Richmond College, Galle ...	336
2 ...	J. P Salgado ...	St. Thomas's College ...	312
æq. 3 ...	C. E. De Vos ...	Royal College ...	298
æq. 3 ...	E. H. Vanderwall ...	St. Thomas's College ...	292
5 ...	K. P. Silva ...	Royal College ...	277
6 ...	A. Wittahachchy ...	Do. ...	268
7 ...	H. J. Mendis ...	Wesley College ...	256
8 ...	O. E. Martinus ...	St. Thomas's College ...	241
9 ...	A. Jayasundara ...	Do. ...	236
10 ...	C. Woinman ...	Royal College ...	233
11 ...	C. Muttukumaru ...	St. Thomas's College ...	232
12 ...	W. Parys ...	Wesley College ...	226

Order of Merit.	Name of Candidate	School were educated.	No. of Marks.
æq. 13	H. C. Silva	St. Thomas's College	214
æq. 13	John Muttiah	Wesley College	214
17	J. Wille	Royal College	202
æq. 19	C. Rasanayagam	St. Thomas's College	192
æq. 19	W. P. Vanderstraaten	Do.	191
æq. 21	F. F. Martinus	Do.	189
æq. 21	Sarnelis Jayawardene	Richmond College	189
23	E. Prins	Royal College	188
24	E. B Wikramanayeke	Richmond College	176
25	K. E. E. Prins	St. Thomas's College	158
26	E. Stork	Royal College	156
27	C. P. Aserappa	St. Thomas's College	149
29	H. Jayawardena	Royal College	137
30	E. F. Cahill	St. Benedict's Institute	136
31	J. Ferdinandus	St. Thomas's College	113
32	J. M. Perera	St. Benedict's Institute	111
37	A. W. Ohlmus	Do	69

Richmond College, Galle, is to be congratulated on coming to the front for this examination.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE.

37. Mr. J. B. Cull, M.A., Oxford, continues in charge of this institution, the only Government High school, and the only High school not under the management of a Religious body.

I have already recorded the distinctions obtained by the students of this College at the Cambridge Local Examinations. Other distinctions obtained during the year by past and present students of the Royal College, which deserve special notice, are :—

Past Students.

Second Class in Botany First Class in Zoology First Class in Physiology Silver Medal in Physiology and Histology Third Class in Materia Medica and Chemistry Gold Medal in Physiology and Histology	H. M Fernando, at the University of London

Present Students

Turnour Prize	C. W. De Silva
Shakespeare Prize	C. W. De Silva
Director's Prize	E. Stork
Rajapakse Prize	N. Jayawardene
De Silva Prize (Literature)	A. Beven
Junior Mathematical Prize	K. Sittampalam
Queen's Scholarship	C. De Vos C. Wenman

GRANT-IN-AID HIGH SCHOOLS (BOYS').

38. St. Thomas's College continues to hold the first place amongst Grant-in-aid High schools as regards open scholarships won upon the Cambridge Local Examinations, and in the Cambridge Local Class List; but even in the Cambridge work other Grant-in-aid High schools are rapidly coming to the front, notably Wesley College, while Richmond College has carried off the Mathematical Prize, as already recorded, while in general work St. Thomas's College has not maintained its pre-eminence, having been surpassed in recent years by St. Benedict's Institute and Wesley College at the Grant-in-aid Examinations.

GRANT-IN-AID GIRLS' BOARDING SCHOOLS.

39. I annex a list of the Grant-in-aid Girls' Boarding Schools, arranged in order of merit, as calculated by the grant per head at the annual examination :—

Names of Girls' Boarding Schools	Management.	Manager.	Number examined.	Grant earned.		Grant per Head.	
				Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Kóṭṭé	C.M.S.	Rev. R. T. Dowbiggin	29	764	0	26	34
Uḍupiḍḍi	American	,, R. C Hastings	27	669	0	24	78
Uḍuvil	do.	,, W. W. Howland	94	2,200	50	23	41
Jaffna	Wesleyan	,, E Rigg	74	1,711	0	23	12
Maradána	Baptist	,, H. R. Pigott	24	538	0	22	41
Nellore	C.M.S.	,, E M. Griffith	46	1,014	0	22	4
Richmond Hill	Wesleyan	,, S. R. Wilkin	16	946	0	20	56
Borella	C.M.S.	,, D. Wood	15	300	0	20	0
Puliyantívu	Wesleyan	,, G. J. Trimmer	46	822	0	17	87
Point Pedro	do.	,, T. Little	53	940	50	17	71
Kandy	do.	,, W. J. G. Bestall	18	304	0	16	89
Kalmunai	do.	,, J. West	37	610	0	16	48
Jaffna Convent	R.C.	,, P. O Flanagan	33	491	0	14	97
Trincomalee	Wesleyan	,, A. E. Restarick	34	490	50	14	42
Kurunégala Convent	R.C.	,, A. Dinaux	46	641	0	13	93
Koṭahéna Convent	do.	,, C. Collin	112	782	50	6	98

These girls' boarding schools are, in my opinion, the most useful institutions of the country, and the difference in type of young women who have been brought up at these schools cannot but strike any observer.

As I have in previous years remarked, "It is not by any means by examination results only that these schools should be judged. The examination can only speak of the mere bookwork of the girls, while the great practical use of these boarding schools is their civilising influence on the girls themselves, and through them on many native homes. Each school is under the immediate supervision of one or more European or American ladies, who have devoted their lives to the work, and their influence for good is incalculable, the girls being removed from lowering home influences, and being brought into daily contact for a period of years with their lady teachers, till they go forth into the country, the majority of them as refined and intelligent women, and many of them to prepetuate the lessons of civilisation which they have themselves learned."

Moreover, three of these schools have attached to them an institution for training female teachers, while in connection with one of them, Puliyantivu, there is a lady doctor working most usefully.

INSTRUCTION IN ORIENTAL LITERATURE.

10. The Vidyódayá College in Colombo receives an annual fixed grant of Rs. 1,000 for the special encouragement of Oriental Literature.

It is encouraging to find the numbers of students at this institution steadily increasing at a time when education in English only is so much sought after, often to the neglect of the mother tongues of the people of this country; but I regret that I am still dissatisfied with the extent to which the majority of the scholars at this institution carry their Sanskrit and Páli studies.

They are most of them mere beginners, and very few seem to get very far beyond the beginning.

Moreover, no great progress is made in arithmetic and modern subjects, whereas I had hoped that, while not neglecting Oriental languages, modern subjects would have received considerable attention, so that, when the numerous Buddhist priests trained at the Vidyódaya College go forth to their Pansalas, the teaching of ordinary subjects in Pansala schools might receive better attention.

Mr. C. H. De Soysa, at his useful Prince of Wales' College at Moratuwa, continues to encourage the study of Sanskrit, and sends up students for examination in that language by this Department.

IV.—PRIMARY AND MIDDLE INSTRUCTION.

GENERAL REMARKS.—GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS.

11. The number of schools, of scholars on the list, and the daily average attendance in Government Primary and Middle schools will be seen from the following table:—

Class of Schools.	1887			1886.			1885		
	Number of Schools	Number of Scholars	Average daily Attendance.	Number of Schools	Number of Scholars	Average daily Attendance	Number of Schools.	Number of Scholars	Average daily Attendance.
Boys' English	1	33	18	1	38	11	1	39	15
Boys' Anglo vernacular ...	22	2,399	1,521	23	2,562	1,505	23	2,179	1,424
Boys' Vernacular ...	325	24,131	15,277	311	21,466	11,778	301	19,373	11,509
Girls' English ...					—	—	—	—	—
Girls' Anglo vernacular ...	3	291	156	3	257	134	3	241	127
Girls' Vernacular ..	71	4,145	2,272	73	3,958	2,055	79	4,099	2,361
Mixed Vernacular ..	16	1,266	739	12	1,038	535	5	348	200
Total ...	438	32,265	17,983	423	29,319	16,018	415	26,279	15,636

12. The following summary gives the provincial distribution of the above Government Primary and Middle schools:—

Province	1887.		1886.		1885.	
	Schools	Scholars.	Schools.	Scholars.	Schools.	Scholars.
Western ..	268	20,858	261	18,946	257	17,581
Southern ..	66	4,719	66	4,586	68	4,124
Central .	51	3,912	51	3,578	50	2,732
North-Western ...	17	1,129	17	949	17	906
North-Central ...	10	400	7	240	7	261
Northern ...	4	63	3	60	3	68
Eastern ...	12	697	12	708	12	560
Uva ..	10	487	6	252	1	47
Total	438	32,265	423	29,319	415	26,279

I am endeavouring to make the Government Primary and Middle schools little centres of practical usefulness to the people, and not merely places where the three R's may be learned. Instruction in the elements of agriculture and sanitation is provided for in the higher standards of all of them, by the means of primers, while some of the teachers have proved themselves useful to their neighbours by the distribution of fever powders in times of epidemic visitations of fever.

I am in communication with the Acting Principal Civil Medical Officer, Dr. Vanderstraaten, towards the utilising of more of our Government village schools in this manner. Some of them are also used as Receiving Post Offices, and altogether their usefulness is greatly extending.

TEACHERS IN GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS.

43. The number of teachers actually employed in Government Primary and Middle schools at the close of each of the last four years was as follows :—

		1887.	1886.	1885.	1884
(*a*) Certificated Teachers trained at the old Normal School		190	192	179	173
(*b*) Teachers not so trained, but who have passed the Teachers' Certificate Examination	Males ...	160	157	142	137
	Females ...	68	67	60	58
(*c*) Uncertificated Teachers		77	98	107	161
(*d*) Agricultural Instructors and Teachers trained in the new Training Classes ...		15	—	—	—
Total ...		510	514	488	529

It will be seen that the work of weeding out the old uncertificated teachers continues. There are now very few teachers in boys' schools who are not certificated, excepting in the remote and backward districts of the Colony, while a large number of certificated persons of both sexes are awaiting employment when opportunity offers.

GRANT-IN-AID SCHOOLS.

44. The following table shows the number on the list and the average attendance of those grant-in-aid schools which were examined during 1887, *classified according to their management* :—

Management.	Number of Schools.	Nominal Attendance.	Average Attendance.
American	133	8,516	5,257
Baptist	12	2,137	1,384
Buddhist	13	1,002	586
Church of England (C M S.) ...	183	9,711	5,653
Church of England (Diocesan) ...	63	5,029	3,182
Local Board, Puttalam ..	1	42	26
Private	27	2,538	1,619
Roman Catholic	208	17,323	11,014
Sivite	5	507	318
Wesleyan	224	15,890	8,925
Total ...	899	62,995	37,994

45. The provincial distribution of these schools will appear from the annexed summary :—

Province.	Schools.	Scholars.
Western	299	21,331
Southern	80	6,109
Northern	315	20,942
Eastern	88	4,946
Central	69	3,141
North Western	17	2,825
North Central	3	140
Uva	12	561
Total ...	899	62,995

46. The growth or otherwise of the Grant-in-aid System, from its commencement in 1870 up to the end of 1887, and the average grant obtained by each school presented for examination, will be seen on reference to the following table. Grants upon all accounts, and not merely the ordinary result-payment grant for scholars, are, as usual, included in this table :—

Year.	Number of Schools examined for Grant.	Number of Children in such Schools.	Amount of Grant. Rs. c.	Average Grant per School. Rs. c.
1870 ...	229	8,201	34,355 0	150 0
1871 ...	314	19,416	52,431 41	167 0
1872 ...	402	25,443	82,497 60	205 21
1873 ...	528	32,594	97,428 95	184 52
1874 ...	595	35,559	104,559 41	176 40
1875 ...	654	41,343	120,255 67	183 87
1876 ...	697	45,422	129,099 15	185 22
1877 ...	730	47,142	137,357 90	188 16
1878 ...	772	49,854	143,680 57	186 11
1879 ...	814	55,944	173,734 53	213 43
1880 ...	833	59,820	185,747 71	222 98
1881 ...	839	61,131	187,992 98	224 6
1882 ...	832	62,842	176,465 82	212 10
1883 ...	836	61,374	184,692 66	220 92
1884 ...	814	59,776	174,533 52	214 41
1885 ...	819	57,320	166,979 40	203 88
1886 ...	849	57,955	181,033 51	213 23
1887 ...	899	62,995	187,122 1	208 14

CHAPTER V.—SCHOOLS FOR SPECIAL OR TECHNICAL TRAINING.

AGRICULTURAL SCHOOLS.

47. There are now altogether seven schools of agriculture in Ceylon; that is to say, there is the parent Colombo School of Agriculture, which I opened in 1884, and there are six branch schools opened in January, 1887, officered by young men trained in the parent school, the object of which is to spread into the districts the knowledge hitherto confined to those who came in to Colombo to the parent school.

Of the parent school at Colombo I have written in previous reports, and I will only say now that I am at present living there, and generally directing its work; that it cost only Rs. 6,347·04 in 1887 as compared with Rs. 6,806·11 in 1886; and that I continue to receive more applications for admission than I am able to accept.

48. I will pass on now to the work of the six branch schools, which is the more interesting, they being a new venture.

The schools were Toppur, in the Trincomalee district, under Mr. Cheenavasakam; Mullaittivu, under Mr. Hoole; Kanankudai, in the Batticaloa district, under Mr Chelliah; Panapitiya and Wewita, in the Kalutara district, under Messrs. Atapattu and Rodrigo; and Minuwangoda, in the Negombo district, under Mr. De Silva.

Each of these agricultural instructors was to lease about three acres of private land for paddy cultivation, ordinary land in the midst of native tracts of fields being selected, so that my system of cultivation could be readily compared with that of the native cultivators, and the results seen by them. After raising one or two good crops these instructors are to be moved to other village schools, so that the people in other villages may see what is done.

The agricultural instructors are provided gratis with the improved ploughs, which I have introduced into Ceylon, and a pair of buffaloes; for the rest they take their chance, leasing their lands like other cultivators, and paying the accustomed share to the land owners. Six or seven of the biggest boys in each school were to do the cultivation with them, receiving half profits as a reward, the instructor taking the other half share.

The instructors were also to do what they could towards introducing dhall for garden cultivation, it being hoped in time to create a taste amongst the Sinhalese for this useful pea (already so largely eaten and imported from India by the Tamils) in the place of the unwholesome and heating kurakkan, at present grown in nearly every chena by the Sinhalese.

The instructors had also *carte blanche* to use their own wits towards growing profitably any other useful plant or vegetable.

49. At Toppur the results in paddy were as follows:—Seed paddy sowed broadcast at the rate of 2½ bushels to the acre yielded 39 bushels per acre, after the use of the improved plough, as compared with 20 bushels an acre gained in the native style from the same amount of seed paddy, while, when the instructor added the "planting out" system (instead of broadcast sowing) to the use of the improved plough, the yield was at the rate of 54 bushels an acre, and the seed paddy used was only 15 seers (barely half a bushel, instead of 2½ bushels of seed paddy).

The instructor also lent his plough to two private persons for dry-grain cultivation, with the result of nearly doubling the crop of one man, while the other crop has not yet matured.

His dhall was all spoilt by a flood.

50. At Mullaittivu the results in paddy were:—Seed paddy sowed broadcast at the rate of three bushels to the acre yielded 28 bushels an acre, after the use of the improved plough, as compared with 14 bushels an acre gained by the native cultivators in their style from the same amount of seed paddy; while, when the instructor added the "planting out" system to the use of the improved plough, the yield was at the rate of 53 bushels an acre, the seed paddy used being only 12 seers to the acre instead of 3 bushels, a saving of 84 seers an acre (2 bushels and 20 seers), and a yield of 53 bushels an acre instead of 14.

The instructor was successful with his dhall, a crop of 4 bushels resulting from half a seer (32 seers to a bushel), and it is hoped that, as he is now proceeding to a fresh station at Galle, the people of Mullaittivu may continue in the method of cultivation which they have now seen. A large number of ploughs have been bespoken from this station.

The instructor also conducted some interesting experiments in the use of green manures with a view to improving the wretched soil at Mullaittivu. But no manure was used in his paddy cultivation, as my orders are to cultivate *exactly* as the people of the place do excepting in ploughing and "planting out." Otherwise the natives would lay all increased yield to manure, and not to the ploughs and the system.

60. At Kanankudai the agricultural instructor experienced a terrible drought. Nevertheless he obtained 23 bushels an acre from 1½ bushel seed paddy per acre sowed broadcast (after using the improved plough) without manure. The native crops, which were not manured, were almost spoiled, and no comparison can be made, excepting this important one that our crops survived.

Our "planted out" crops all died, however, the weather being too dry for the young plants to thrive.

At this school a comparison was also made between native crops manured with cattle manure and our crops manured exactly to the same extent, but using the improved plough. The natives got 15 bushels an acre and we got 28 bushels per acre.

This instructor planted his dhall too late, having turned his attention largely to paddy, of which he cultivated some 20 acres. He also, however, did good work by lending his plough to almost all the villagers for their gardens and tobacco lands, in every case with very successful results.

61. At Panapitiya the results in paddy were:—From 1¾ bushel an acre sowed broadcast, after using the improved plough, a crop of 41½ bushels an acre, as compared with a crop of 25 bushels an acre from the same sowing and cultivation in the native style.

This instructor did not "plant out" enough paddy for me to report the yield per acre.

The instructor also grew a quantity of dhall for distribution amongst the people.

62. At Węwiṭa the instructor has not yet reaped his paddy crops, but when I saw them they were looking exceedingly well, with great ears almost like wheat.

He has done exceedingly well with his dry crops, having grown and distributed for seed an enormous quantity of dhall, while he has grown, *mero motu*, a very large amount of arrowroot. By taking pains with it, and preparing the flour carefully, he has gained a certificate from the Government Analyst that his arrowroot is "equal to the best imported arrowroot," and he has now 1,000 pounds weight of arrowroot flour, which he is preparing to sell in tins in Colombo, where he hopes for a good market, as he can gain cent per cent profit by selling at half the price at which imported arrowroot is sold in the shops.

I have since heard that he gained a medal for his arrowroot at the Kégalla Agri-Horticultural Show, though that was in the first quarter of 1888, and does not strictly belong to this report.

63. At Minuwangoḍa the agricultural instructor gained the following crop in paddy:—32½ bushels an acre from broadcast sowing of 2 bushels an acre, after using the improved plough, as compared with 17½ bushels an acre from the same sowing by natives without our plough.

He also got 40 bushels an acre on the "planting out" system (in addition to the improved plough) from only 4 seers per acre planted out! This yield is 321-fold! And the saving of seed paddy by using only 4 seers an acre instead of 2 bushels is 1 bushel and 28 seers, while the crop per acre is more than twice the native crop.

He also grew a quantity of dhall, and made an interesting experiment in senna, a sample of which was sent to the Principal Civil Medical Officer, and approved.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS.

64. We have no regular "Technical" schools in Ceylon, but most useful institutions in this direction are the Government Factory, the Government Printing Office, the Railway Workshops, Messrs. Walker & Co.'s Foundry, and, I hope shortly, the proposed Spinning and Weaving Company. I may mention that, in connection with the latter Company, the Hon. Mr. W. W. Mitchell, Member of Council, has asked me to cause agricultural instructors to make regular experiments in the growth of cotton locally, to see if a new industry can be provided for the people,—a request with which I have gladly promised to comply, though private experiments in cotton in Ceylon have never come to any good hitherto.

These factories, &c., are, of course, in no way connected with this Department, but I mention them as I look upon them as, to a small extent, supplying the want of real technical education.

Immediately connected with this Department are, however, the Grant-in-aid Industrial Schools, which are, in a way, second-rate technical schools. (By this expression I do not in any way mean to undervalue these schools *industrially*, but only to point out that the *technical* education there given is not of a very high order.)

Kandy Boys' Industrial School.

65. This institution continues to be in receipt of a lump sum grant, the amount being Rs. 2,000 grant, and an allowance of Rs. 500 for rent.

Last year I had to complain of the low grant earned by it in examination in other than industrial subjects; but I am glad to say that, owing to the boys being sent over to St. Paul's school for teaching, the examination grant has risen from Rs. 97·50 to Rs. 359·50.

The chief trades taught in the school are printing, book-binding, carpentering, and shoemaking.

In *all* the industrial schools, however, there is one drawback, and that is, that a large proportion of the boys taught a trade in them do not keep to that trade when they leave school.

Kandy Girls' Industrial School.

66. This is a comparatively new industrial school, and owes its existence to the Rev. S. Langdon, of the Wesleyan Mission, being one of his many useful educational efforts.

Like all the industrial schools opened of late years, it receives no fixed grant, but a capitation grant at the rate of Rs. 5 per scholar learning a trade, and an examination grant.

The capitation grant for 1886, its first year as an aided school, was Rs. 75, and the examination grant was Rs. 224, making a total of Rs. 299. In 1887 the capitation grant fell to Rs. 70, but the examination grant rose to Rs. 234, making its total earnings Rs. 304.

Buona Vista Orphanage.

67. This well-known institution in the neighbourhood of Galle continues under the management of the Rev. Mr. Marks, S.P.G., and Mrs. Marks.

It receives a lump sum grant of Rs. 900 per annum, but does not submit its pupils for examination, which is, I think, a pity. At any rate, it is now the only aided educational institution in such a case, a not desirable honour.

Galle Industrial School.

68. This is a "mixed school," having a department for both boys and girls. The school was re-organised a few years ago, and has since then been yearly improving. It is under Wesleyan management. The trades taught are chiefly tailoring and shoemaking, with straw-work for the girls. I went over the school books recently, and it seems to be doing much better business in its trades, making, for instance, all the boots for the police.

The school receives a lump sum grant of Rs. 900, and its examination grant has risen from Rs. 59 in 1886 to Rs. 139 in 1887.

Colombogam Industrial School.

69. This school, which is situated in a suburb of Jaffna, is under Roman Catholic management; the chief trades taught are carriage-building, carpentry, and masonry. It receives no fixed grant, but a capitation grant of Rs. 5 per head for each boy learning a trade, and an examination grant. The capitation grant was Rs. 165, an increase of Rs. 60 over last year, and the examination grant rose from Rs. 304 to Rs. 499·50. The total sum received from Government was thus Rs. 664·50 instead of Rs. 409.

Tellipallai Industrial School.

70. The American Mission manages this school. The chief trades taught are carpentry, book-binding, masonry, map-making, taxidermy, &c.

This school receives no fixed grant. Its capitation grant was Rs. 225 against Rs. 245 last year, while its examination grant fell from Rs. 735 to Rs. 700·50. The total grant received by the school from the Government was thus Rs. 925·50 in 1887, against Rs. 980 in 1886.

Ondachchimadam Industrial School.

71. I am glad to note the registration of a new industrial school at Ondachchimadam, in the Eastern Province, under the Rev. J. West.

PRISON SCHOOLS.

72. The prison schools at Colombo and Negombo continue to be taught by teachers supplied by this Department, and are inspected yearly. I do not, however, think the prisoners really learn very much, and there is a tendency on their part to look upon school as an almost idle hour, and next akin to recreation.

CHAPTER VI.—BOOKS.

73. The following books were published by the Department during the year 1887 :—

A Siṅhalese Reading Book for the Standard VII.—By Mudaliyár Simon De Silva.
The fourth edition of Swabháshá Ratnadamáya.—By Rev. C. Alwis.
A Siṅhalese Physical Geography.—By Mr. D. E. Johannes.
The second edition of the Second Reading Book By Mr. A. Van Cuylenburg.
Second edition of Dixon's Botany Primer.—By Mr. A. C Dixon, B.SC. (Honors) London.

CHAPTER VII.—LIBRARIES.

74. The libraries, book clubs, &c., aided during the year 1867 were as follows :—

	Rs.
Western Province.	
Donation to the Royal Asiatic Society ...	500
Colombo Pettah Library ...	500
Kalutara Book Club	100
Negombo do.	100
Ratnapura do.	100
Kégalla do.	100
North Western Province.	
Kurunégala Library	150
Puttalam Reading Room	150
Southern Province.	
Galle Reading Room	200
Mátara do.	150
Eastern Province.	
Batticaloa Library	150
Trincomalee do.	150
Northern Province.	
Jaffna Public Library	100
Vavuṇiyá-Világkulam Reading Room ...	120
Central Province.	
Kandy Central Town Library ...	300
Mátalé Library	100
Province of Uva.	
Badulla Volunteer Reading Room ...	180
North-Central Province.	
Anurádhapura Reading Room ...	100
Total ...	3,250

I reported last year that the Government had taken action upon my complaint that some of the libraries receiving aid from this Department appeared to confine themselves too largely to mere newspapers, whereas, in my opinion, these libraries ought gradually, as funds permitted, to acquire standard and useful books of reference and otherwise.

It was then decided that the amount of the grant to each library must be spent upon books, the selection being left to themselves in the first instance, in the confident hope that they would select such books as would render further interference on the part of the Government unnecessary.

I am glad to say that this condition of grant has been loyally complied with, while the books purchased have been in all cases well selected, and in some instances excellently.

CHAPTER VIII.—FINANCIAL SUMMARY.

	1887. Rs.	Rs.	c	1886. Rs.	Rs.	c.
Original vote ...	451,696			452,056		
Supplementary ..	20,329			1,213		
		472,025	0		453,269	0
Expenditure ...		454 716	10		439,697	29
Unexpected balance ...		17,308	90*		13,571	91

75. From the above summary it will be seen that the expenditure of the Department not only exceeded the original amount voted, under all heads, by Rs. 3,030·10, but that the expenditure was larger than that of 1886 by Rs. 15,018·81.

I would however note that, when I first joined the Department in 1883, the amount voted was Rs. 497,188 and the expenditure Rs. 477,491·15, though there were then only 1,273 Government and Aided schools with 89,030 scholars, while there are now 1,339 Government and Aided schools with 95,560 scholars, so that I can show very fair progress on considerably less expenditure than that of 1883.

* Including Supplementary vote.

The annexed table shows the general heads where the increase of expenditure occurred as compared with last year, and gives a general comparative view of the Departmental work :—

	1887. Rs.	c.	1886. Rs.	c.
Administration.				
Cost of Direction	22,221	38	22,347	27
Cost of Inspection	42,233	27	39,774	9
General Instruction. (Superior.)				
Royal College	28,065	38	27,203	17
Páli Vidyódaya College	1,000	0	1,000	0
Grant-in-aid High Schools ..	23,775	0	24,117	50
Scholarships and Prizes	13,100	25	11,814	3
(Middle and Primary.)				
Government Schools	129,471	58	129,905	3
Grant Schools	151,992	34	144,520	86
Special Instruction.				
School of Agriculture, Colombo ...	6,347	4	6,806	44
Branch Agricultural Schools ...	3,530	97	—	
Government Training Schools ...	8,041	90	8,602	7
Grant-in aid Training Schools ...	3,867	20	5,103	58
Industrial Schools	5,225	84	4,937	34
Orphan and Ragged Schools ...	2,543	92	2,456	92
Libraries and Reading Rooms.				
Donations to Libraries and Reading Rooms	3,250	0	3,250	0
Preparation of School Books.				
Sinhalese Books and Maps ...	1,941	59	1,562	79
Books purchased for Sale.				
English, Sinhalese, and Tamil Books ...	4,766	54	3,532	69
Miscellaneous.				
Expenditure not chargeable under any of the above heads	3,341	90	2,763	51
Total ...	454,716	10	439,697	29

76. It will be seen that there is an increase of Rs. 2,459·18 under the head "Inspection." This, however, was unavoidable, as there was a good deal more inspection work during 1887 than in 1886, when no less than fifty-five schools on the Grant-in-aid List did not present themselves for examination.

There is, however, a slight decrease in the cost of "Direction," that is to say, in the cost of the office and establishment at Headquarters, Director's salary, travelling expenses, &c.

77. The small increase of Rs. 852·21 in the cost of the Royal College is apparent rather than real, as in 1886 there was a vacancy in the staff, which caused an unusual saving.

The slight decrease of Rs. 342·30 in the cost of Grant-in-aid High schools is caused by examination results. These High schools, it will be observed, cost the Government less than the Royal College, because only a grant is paid to the Grant High schools, while the whole cost of the Royal College falls upon Government. It is therefore frequently stated that the Royal College should be given up in favour of the Grant High schools, and when the teaching capabilities of the Grant-in-aid High schools are as fully secured as are those of the Royal College, I shall be prepared to advise the Government accordingly. But this is not yet by any means. I set a paper recently, which was complained of as too hard at a very leading High school, while it was easily and excellently done at the Royal College.

The increase of Rs. 2,286·22 under the head "Scholarships and Prizes" is caused by exchange loss on the University Scholarships paid in England, and by some of the University scholars having been permitted to draw their four years' allowance in three years.

78. Coming to Middle and Primary schools, the Government vernacular schools show a decreased cost of Rs. 433·45, though the number of schools and scholars has increased very largely (see Chapter I., section 2), while the Grant-in-aid schools have cost Rs. 7,471·48 more than in 1886, though in 1886 the vote for these was also exceeded. This has been fully discussed elsewhere in this report. (See Chapter I., section 3, and Chapter II., section 26.)

79. The other variations in expenditure call for no special remark, except the most unfortunate decrease in the cost of Grant-in-aid Training schools, to which I have alluded in Chapter I., section 12, where I remarked that the examinations had been generally disappointing, and consequently the result-payments decreased.

The decrease in the cost of Government Training schools represents savings in salaries only.

Further financial tables are given in the appendices attached to this report.

H. W. GREEN,
Director of Public Instruction.

Colombo, April 5, 1888.

LIST OF APPENDICES.

A.

Provincial Distribution of Scholars in English, Anglo-Vernacular, and Vernacular Government Schools, including Religion, Nationality, and Standards of Instruction.

B.

Provincial Distribution of Scholars in English, Anglo-Vernacular, and Vernacular Grant-in-Aid Schools, including Religion, Nationality, and Standards of Instruction.

C.

1.—Distribution of Grant-in-Aid English Schools, showing Managing Agencies, Number of Schools under each, and the Amount of Grants.

2.—Distribution of Grant-in-Aid Anglo-Vernacular Schools, showing Managing Agencies, Number of Schools under each, and the Amount of Grants.

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1.—Abstract of Receipts, Cost, and State of the several Classes of Government Schools for 1887.

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APPENDIX.

A.—Provincial Distribution of Scholars in Government English, Anglo-Vernacular, and Vernacular Schools, including Religion, Nationality, and Standard of Instruction.

Province and Class of Schools.	Number of Schools.	Number of Children on Roll on the day of Examination.			Number not presented for Examination.	Number of Scholars presented in each Department.				Number Examined.	Average daily attendance for the 12 months preceding the month fixed for Examination.	Nationality.									Religion.								
														Sinhalese.		Tamil.													
		Boys.	Girls.	Total.		Superior.	Middle: Standards VI. to VIII.	Primary: Standards I. to V.	Alphabet Class.			English.	European Descendants.	Low-country.	Kandyans.	Natives of Ceylon.	Immigrants.	Malays.	Moors.	Others.	Church of England.	Presbyterians.	Wesleyans.	Roman Catholics.	Christians of other Denominations.	Muhammedans.	Hindus.	Buddhists.	Others.
Western.																													
English ...	3	333	—	333	296	18	3	8	8	37	292	8	115	181	4	22	—	—	3	—	97	37	15	93	17	3	1	67	3
Anglo-Vernacular	14	1,361	278	1,639	302	3	95	729	517	1,337	1,037	6	18	1,4[illegible]	144	10	—	4	23	—	14	10	54	285	10	27	6	1233	—
Vernacular ...	253	15,461	3,725	19,186	4,402	—	500	8,142	6,135	14,784	10,786	—	—	16846	2,232	19	46	4	36	3	36	—	113	1,377	29	43	47	17532	9
Southern.																													
English ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Anglo-Vernacular	4	466	—	466	74	3	33	231	125	392	300	—	1	449	—	1	—	11	4	—	4	—	3	2	—	15	1	441	—
Vernacular ...	62	3,376	877	4,253	874	—	69	1,952	1,358	3,379	2,481	—	1	4,245	1	2	—	—	3	1	7	—	9	2	—	3	—	4232	—
Northern.																													
English ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Anglo-Vernacular	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Vernacular ...	4	61	2	63	23	—	—	25	15	40	38	—	—	—	—	63	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	61	—	—
Eastern.																													
English ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Anglo-Vernacular	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Vernacular ...	12	653	44	697	219	—	14	380	84	478	418	—	—	—	—	448	—	4	245	—	—	—	1	4	—	249	443	—	—
Central.																													
English ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Anglo-Vernacular	7	585	—	585	142	6	27	269	141	443	340	—	10	127	383	12	6	12	34	1	13	3	—	32	12	46	8	471	—
Vernacular ...	44	3,277	50	3,327	855	—	46	1,351	1,075	2,472	1,559	—	—	207	3,028	7	1	2	82	—	1	—	—	23	3	83	4	3212	1
North-Western.																													
English ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Anglo-Vernacular	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Vernacular ...	17	1,129	—	1,129	373	—	14	455	287	756	561	—	—	320	799	6	4	—	—	—	—	—	1	55	—	—	2	1071	—
Uva.																													
English ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Anglo-Vernacular	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Vernacular ...	10	458	29	487	226	—	—	118	143	261	237	—	—	34	288	4	138	2	21	—	1	—	—	8	—	23	210	245	—
North-Central.																													
English ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Anglo-Vernacular	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Vernacular ...	10	400	—	400	116	—	—	150	134	284	208	—	—	2	396	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	397	—
Total ...	440	27,560	5,005	32,565	7,902	30	801	13,810	10,022	24,663	18,257	14	145	23845	7,275	594	195	39	453	5	173	50	196	1,884	71	494	783	28901	13

B.—Provincial Distribution of Scholars in English, Anglo-Vernacular, and Vernacular Grant-in-Aid Schools, including Religion, Nationality, and Standard of Instruction.

Province and Class of Schools.	Number of Schools.	Number of Children on Roll on the day of Examination.			Number not presented for Examination.	Number of Scholars presented in each Department.			Number Examined.	Average daily attendance for the 12 months preceding the month fixed for Examination.	Nationality.									Religion.								
		Boys.	Girls.	Total.		Superior.*	Middle, Standards VI. to VIII.	Primary, Standards I. to V.			English.	European Descendants.	Sinhalese. Low-country.	Sinhalese. Kandyans.	Tamil. Natives of Ceylon.	Tamil. Immigrants.	Malays.	Moors.	Others.	Church of England.	Presbyterians.	Wesleyans.	Roman Catholics.	Christians and other Denominations.	Muhammadans.	Hindus.	Buddhists.	Others.
Western.																												
English ...	28	2,479	829	3,308	1,351	419	468	1,463	1,957	2,463	63	1,067	1812	21	232	28	31	43	11	909	164	288	1315	57	75	60	533	7
Anglo-Vernacular ...	19	1,277	275	1,552	731	73	123	692	821	913	—	16	1270	35	111	50	20	41	15	226	1	131	406	57	63	65	602	1
Vernacular ...	252	11,771	7,700	19,471	9,801	201	568	9,006	9,670	11,211	—	45	17553	309	1306	89	60	73	36	826	2	696	8864	235	152	199	8495	2
Southern.																												
English ...	15	1,299	199	1,498	653	161	196	640	845	974	3	195	1177	11	55	1	11	40	5	176	67	164	179	—	53	1	827	31
Anglo-Vernacular ...	10	704	294	998	543	20	54	401	455	600	—	17	960	—	2	—	2	17	—	84	1	54	3	1	19	2	834	—
Vernacular ...	55	2,495	1,118	3,613	2,051	—	38	1,524	1,562	1,962	—	6	3537	—	4	1	5	60	—	59	—	44	12	—	64	5	3424	5
Northern.																												
English ...	20	1,402	123	1,525	555	210	254	711	970	1,137	2	148	3	—	1354	—	2	16	—	150	23	95	278	67	19	893	—	—
Anglo-Vernacular ...	31	2,007	492	2,499	826	153	380	1,243	1,673	1,610	—	—	—	—	2495	—	—	4	—	58	7	167	72	195	4	1996	—	—
Vernacular ...	264	12,657	4,261	16,918	7,383	67	443	9,070	9,535	10,256	—	2	—	2	16781	2	1	127	3	115	35	53	2455	241	130	13746	—	143
Eastern.																												
English ...	6	420	17	437	175	32	62	198	262	292	5	85	7	5	308	4	13	10	—	42	1	45	115	—	24	210	—	—
Anglo-Vernacular ...	4	81	133	214	44	27	32	136	170	159	—	5	—	—	208	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	50	3	—	—	161	—
Vernacular ...	78	3,343	952	4,295	2,013	23	99	2,183	2,282	2,335	—	63	9	—	3896	—	4	323	—	19	—	92	409	—	327	3446	2	—
Central.																												
English ...	9	576	155	731	321	86	99	305	419	517	13	216	310	91	49	3	28	14	7	237	11	49	223	22	42	19	127	1
Anglo-Vernacular ...	5	353	15	368	212	2	24	130	156	241	—	1	124	142	27	—	19	50	5	52	—	—	17	5	70	10	214	—
Vernacular ...	41	1,480	562	2,042	1,243	—	15	784	799	1,123	—	17	645	609	106	505	35	119	6	163	1	30	239	27	156	446	980	—
North-Western.																												
English ...	5	129	83	212	79	—	8	125	133	149	1	45	100	19	26	8	11	—	2	64	—	—	120	—	11	9	8	—
Anglo-Vernacular ...	1	49	33	82	68	—	2	12	14	25	—	—	82	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	18	—	—	60	—
Vernacular ...	41	1,686	845	2,531	959	—	69	1,503	1,572	1,621	—	1	1828	223	467	1	5	5	1	36	—	—	2216	—	10	2	267	—
Uva.																												
English ...	1	63	—	63	25	8	8	30	38	39	—	14	20	14	—	2	9	4	—	21	—	—	2	—	13	—	27	—
Anglo-Vernacular ...	1	6	36	42	31	—	1	10	11	21	—	6	29	4	2	—	1	—	—	13	—	1	5	3	1	—	19	—
Vernacular ...	10	402	54	456	226	—	—	230	230	265	—	2	84	226	7	97	17	23	—	5	—	3	27	3	38	94	286	—
North-Central.																												
English ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Anglo-Vernacular ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Vernacular ...	3	140	—	140	54	—	3	83	86	81	—	2	10	102	13	—	4	9	—	15	—	—	10	—	13	6	95	1
Total ...	899	44,819	18,176	62,995	29,344	1,482	2,946	30,479	33,651	37,994	87	1,947	29560	1,813	27449	792	278	978	91	3,170	313	1,913	17020	934	1,284	21209	16961	191

* Of the students enumerated in this column, all of whom are receiving instruction in one or more subjects beyond the Standard, 1,256 are included in other heads.

C 1.—Distribution of Grant-in-Aid English Schools examined during the year, showing the Managing Agencies, the Number of Schools under each, and the Amount of Grant.

MISSION.	Western.		Southern.		Northern.		Eastern.		Central.		North-Western.		Uva.		North-Central.		Total.	
	Schools.	Grant.	Schools.	Grant.	Schools.	Grant.	Schools.	Grant.	Schools.	Grant.	Schools.	Grant.	Schools.	Grant.	Schools.	Grant.	Schools.	Grant.
		Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c.
American ...	—	—	—	—	7	1448 50	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	1448 50
Baptist ...	1	76 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	76 0
Buddhist ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Church of England: C.M.S. ...	1	331 0	3	459 50	2	717 0	—	—	1	799 50	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	2307 0
Diocesan ..	9	4280 42	5	1845 0	1	153 50	1	198 0	3	3141 34	1	158 0	1	234 0	—	—	21	10010 26
Local Board ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	30 0	—	—	—	—	1	30 0
Private ...	3	2007 0	—	—	3	727 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	2734 0
Roman Catholic	9	4953 50	2	351 0	3	1405 50	3	491 50	4	855 0	3	487 0	—	—	—	—	24	8543 50
Sivite ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wesleyan ...	5	3169 0	5	2726 0	4	1797 0	2	573 0	1	476 50	—	—	—	—	—	—	17	8651 50
Total ...	28	14816 92	15	5381 50	20	6158 50	6	1262 50	9	5272 34	5	675 0	1	234 0	—	—	84	33800 76*

* This sum includes the following items :—

	Rs.	c.
Existing Schools ...	29,226	0
Pupil Teachers ...	975	0
Lump sum Schools ...	3,599	76
Total ...	33,800	76†

† The sum of Rs. 125 paid to Private Schools on account of the Cambridge Local Examination is not here included.

C 2.—Distribution of Grant-in-Aid Anglo-Vernacular Schools examined during the year, showing the Managing Agencies, the Number of Schools under each, and the Amount of Grant.

MISSION.	Western.		Southern.		Northern.		Eastern.		Central.		North-Western.		Uva.		North-Central.		Total.	
	Schools.	Grant.	Schools.	Grant.	Schools.	Grant.	Schools.	Grant.	Schools.	Grant.	Schools.	Grant.	Schools.	Grant.	Schools.	Grant.	Schools.	Grant.
		Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c.
American ...	—	—	—	—	12	7313 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	7313 0
Baptist ...	3	910 50	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	380 0	1	93 50	—	—	—	—	5	1384 0
Buddhist ...	1	283 50	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	283 50
Church of England: C.M.S. ...	7	2593 0	—	—	5	2187 0	—	—	2	226 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	14	5006 0
Diocesan ...	1	301 50	4	1694 50	—	—		—	2	388 50	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	2384 50
Local Board ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Private ...	—	—	1	210 50	4	1696 0	—	—	—	—	—			—	—	—	5	1906 50
Roman Catholic	2	1176 0	—	—	1	386 50	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1562 50
Sivite ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wesleyan ...	5	1007 0	5	1978 50	9	6239 0	4	2272 0	—		—	—	1	75 50		—	24	11572 0
Total ...	19	6271 50	10	3883 50	31	17821 50	4	2272 0	5	994 50	1	93 50	1	75 50	—	—	71	31412 0*

* This sum includes the following items :—

	Rs.	c.
Existing Schools ...	26,594	50
Training Schools ...	3,150	0
Pupil Teachers ...	542	50
Industrial Schools ...	225	0
Lump sum Schools ...	900	0
Total ...	31,412	0†

† In this sum is not included Rs. 14·50, part payment of a bonus to a first class certificated teacher.

C 3.—Distribution of Grant-in-Aid Vernacular Schools examined during the year, showing the Managing Agencies, the Number of Schools under each, and the Amount of Grant.

Missions.	Western.		Southern.		Northern.		Eastern.		Central.		North-Western.		Uva.		North-Central.		Total.	
	Schools.	Grant.	Schools.	Grant.	Schools.	Grant.	Schools.	Grant.	Schools.	Grant.	Schools.	Grant.	Schools	Grant.	Schools.	Grant.	Schools.	Grant.
		Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c.
American ...	—	—	—	—	114	18727 25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	114	18727 25
Baptist ...	30	3859 50	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	504 50	1	60 50	—	—	—	—	36	4424 50
Buddhist ...	11	2405 50	.	.	—	—	—	.	—	—	—	—	1	98 50	—	—	12	2504 0
Church of England · C.M.S.	42	4689 0	22	2491 0	58	7414 0	—	—	27	2166 25	7	321 0	3	249 50	3	343 0	162	17673 75
Diocesan ...	24	4801 0	4	1076 50	—	—	3	271 50	1	59 50	—	—	3	415 0	—	—	35	6623 50
Local Board ...	—	—	—		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Private ...	3	1327 50	1	134 50	7	1864 0	1	269 0	4	282 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	16	3877 0
Roman Catholic	99	23518 25	—	—	42	8103 0	6	1219 50	1	235 50	33	8453 0	—	—	—	—	181	41529 25
Sivite ...	—	—	—	.	5	1095 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	1095 0
Wesleyan ...	43	5765 50	28	3323 50	38	7172 0	68	8346 0	3	452 50	—	—	3	256 0	—	—	183	25315 50
Total ...	252	46366 25	55	7025 50	264	44375 25	78	10106 0	41	3700 25	41	8834 50	10	1019 0	3	343 0	744	* 121769 75

* This sum includes the following items —

		Rs.	c.
Existing Schools	...	119,539	75
Training Schools	...	650	0
Pupil Teachers	...	315	0
Industrial Schools	...	235	0
Lump sum School	...	1,000	0
	Rs.	121,769	75

D.—Statement showing the Number of Pupils attending the Schools in connection with the Department of Public Instruction from 1874 to 1887.

Year.	Government Boys' English Schools		Government Boys' Anglo-Vernacular Schools.		Government Boys' Vernacular Schools.		Government Girls' English Schools.		Government Girls' Anglo-Vernacular Schools.		Government Girls' Vernacular Schools.		Grant-in-Aid Schools.		Total.	
	Schools.	Pupils.	Schools.	Pupils.	Schools.	Pupils.	Schools.	Pupils.	Schools.	Pupils.	Schools.	Pupils.	Schools.	Pupils.	Schools.	Pupils.
1874 ...	12	945	30	1,545	169	7,886	4	258	4	135	24	950	595	35,559	838	45.278
1875 ...	12	890	33	1,644	191	8,572	4	304	7	199	29	1,167	654	41,343	930	54,199
1876 ...	12	970	32	1,622	212	10,687	4	281	7	220	34	1,335	697	45,422	998	60,537
1877 ...	13	998	30	1,586	239	11,189	5	324	7	159	35	1,421	730	47,142	1,059	62,819
1878 ...	14	1,131	29	1,418	255	12,899	6	364	5	129	47	2,955	772	49,854	1,128	67,750
1879 ...	14	1,151	28	1,618	262	13,497	7	446	5	126	56	2,282	814	55,944	1,186	75,064
1880 ...	13	1,165	26	1,735	262	15,093	7	506	5	136	56	2,659	833	59,820	1,202	81,114
1881 ...	16	1,326	23	1,922	276	15,865	10	650	2	156	71	3,707	839	61,131	1,237	84,757
1882 ...	18	1,526	22	2,309	295	17,948	9	612	2	146	75	4,056	832	62,842	1,253	89,439
1883 ...	17	1,504	23	2,401	304	18,529	9	652	2	160	82	4,410	836	61,374	1,273	89,030
1884 ...	15	1,344	22	2,278	301	18,932	9	599	2	145	82	4,379	814	59,776	1,245	87,453
1885 ...	3	384	23	2,179	306	19,513	—	—	3	241	82	4,307	856	58,918	1,283	85,542
1886 ...	3	372	23	2,562	318	22,103	—	—	3	257	78	4,359	904	59,863	1,329	89,516
1887 ...	3	333	22	2,399	334	24,929	—	—	3	291	78	4,613	899	62,995	1,339	95,560

E 1.—Statement showing the Amount Voted for the Department of Public Instruction, and the Amount Expended, under the Heads of "Establishment" and "Education," for 1887.

	Amount voted in 1887.		Amount expended in 1887.		Excess.		Balance.		Amount expended in 1886.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Salaries.										
Fixed	26,750	0	26,749	90	—		0	10	26,749	93
Provisional	179,262	0	176,759	4	—		2,502	96	170,853	42
Supplementary	1,100	0	1,096	58	—		3	42	—	
Education.										
Grants-in-aid to existing Schools ...	167,000	0	175,499	75	—		9,169	25	167,686	25
Do. do. Supplementary	17,669	0								
Grants-in-aid to Training Schools ...	5,000	0	3,800	0	—		1,200	0	5,050	0
Grants-in-aid to Pupil Teachers of Aided Schools	3,500	0	1,862	50	—		1,637	50	2,372	50
Grants-in-aid to Industrial Schools ...	1,000	0	460	0	—		540	0	425	0
Grants in-aid to Páli Vidyódaya College ...	1,000	0	1,000	0	—		—		1,000	0
Allowance to Science Inspector ...	250	0	231	0	—		19	0	252	0
Allowance to Ragged School ...	500	0	499	92	—		0	8	499	92
Allowance to Galle Industrial School ...	600	0	600	0	—		—		600	0
Allowance to Buona Vista Charity School	900	0	900	0	—		—		900	0
Allowance and Rent, Kandy Industrial School	2,600	0	2,499	84	—		100	16	2,499	84
Cost of boarding Agricultural Students ...	3,250	0	2,871	18	—		378	82	3,054	83
Four English Scholarships, &c. ...	9,000	0	11,039	79	539	79	—		8,261	12
Do. do. Supplementary	1,500	0								
Queen's Scholarships	2,000	0	1,458	17	—		541	83	1,648	17
Mathematical Prize	100	0	100	0	—		—		100	0
Allowance to Monitors and bonus to Head Masters	7,000	0	5,546	12	—		1,453	88	6,783	28
Cost of translating and printing Sinhalese Books	2,000	0	1,936	64	—		63	36	1,876	72
Result payments to Certificated Head Teachers	4,500	0	4,720	40	220	40	—		4,898	20
Allowance for board and lodging Training Students	1,590	0	1,547	50	—		42	50	2,282	50
Cost of free Boarders	984	0	1,044	0	—		—		957	0
Do. do. Supplementary ...	60	0								
Donations to Libraries, Book Clubs, &c. ...	3,250	0	3,250	0	—		—		3,250	0
Cost of Books and Stationery ...	7,900	0	8,205	37	305	37	—		6,637	10
Furniture for Schools	1,500	0	1,112	10	—		387	90	1,522	87
Miscellaneous expenses	4,000	0	3,853	62	—		146	38	4,339	46
Books for Royal College Library ...	100	0	100	0	—		—		95	64
Purchase of Ploughs	200	0	319	60	119	60	—		—	
Rent of Schoolhouses	120	0	120	0	—		—		120	0
Travelling expenses of Director, Inspectors, &c.	15,000	0	14,593	8	—		406	92	13,736	4
Horse Allowance to two Sub-Inspectors ...	840	0	840	0	—		—		250	50
To be charged against Savings.										
Cost of Boarding Allan Smith in the Kandy Industrial School	-		100	0	100	0	—		100	0
	472,025	0	454,716	10	1,285	16	18,594	6	439,697	29

E 2.—Statement showing the Annual Expenditure incurred on account of Education, and the Receipts by Fees, from 1872 to 1887.

Year.	Fixed Establishment.		Provisional Establishment.		Rent.		Education, exclusive of Establishment.		Transport.		Total.		Receipts by Fees.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
1872 .	37,001	34	112,668	30	9,748	64	99,511	38	8,648	29	267,577	95	24,570	64
1873 ...	34,680	53	116,237	47	7,933	97	127,479	15	8,980	9	295,311	21	22,167	69½
1874 ...	33,219	25	128,197	54	6,306	21	140,569	54	10,558	81	318,851	35	23,253	5
1875 ...	36,519	66	135,709	30	5,880	92	164,104	18	10,634	93	352,848	99	22,691	2
1876 ...	39,211	3	150,788	75	5,797	37	171,229	14	13,887	91	380,914	20	24,158	80
1877 .	36,749	95	160,975	46	4,243	53	180,298	88	14,849	68	397,118	50	23,111	70
1878 ..	32,763	77	172,001	43	4,215	68	186,634	23	13,441	27	409,056	38	22,139	44
1879 ...	38,025	56	181,961	44	3,942	8	205,674	12	15,624	94	445,228	4	22,927	73
1880 ...	38,440	2	183,551	53	4,135	92	249,367	41	16,374	50	491,869	38	22,824	38
1881 ...	37,749	34	189,967	28	—		255,123	93	—		482,840	55	23,057	52
1882 ...	37,291	36	196,394	51	—		254,303	3	—		487,988	90	22,415	85
1883 ...	35,588	34	197,345	48	—		244,557	33	—		477,491	15	26,167	34
1884 ...	36,249	82	198,569	56	—		253,838	4	—		488,657	42	27,093	26
1885 ...	26,749	99	169,257	63	—		230,291	81	—		426,299	43	16,311	66
1886 ..	26,749	93	170,853	42	—		242,093	94	—		439,697	29	15,175	24
1887 ...	26,749	90	177,855	62	—		250,110	58	—		454,716	10	13,201	42

E 3.—Account of the Receipts and Expenditure of the Department of Public Instruction from January 1 to December 31, 1887.

	Rs.	c.
Amount received from the Treasurer on account of votes	436 350	60
Amount received by School Fees ...	11,975	42
Amount received from Agricultural Students as boarding fees ...	1,226	0
Amount received by sale of Stationery	205	81
Amount received by sale of Books ...	4,358	27
Amount received as Examination Fees	600	0
	454,716	10

			Rs.	c.	Rs	c.
ADMINISTRATION.						
Cost of Direction ...			22,221	38		
Cost of Inspection ...			42,233	27		
					64,454	65
GENERAL INSTRUCTION.						
Superior.						
Royal College ...	28,065	38				
Páli Vidyódaya College ...	1,000	0				
Grant-in-Aid High Schools ...	23,775	0				
Scholarships and Prizes ...	13,100	25				
			65,940	63		
Middle and Primary.						
Govt. Schools ...	129,471	58				
Grant Schools ...	151,992	34				
			281,463	92		
					347,404	55
SPECIAL INSTRUCTION.						
Agricultural School ...			6,347	4		
Branch Agricultural Schools...			3,530	97		
Government Training Schools			8,041	90		
Grant-in-aid Training Schools			3,867	20		
Industrial Schools ...			5,225	84		
Orphan and Ragged Schools			2,543	92		
					29,556	87
LIBRARIES AND READING ROOMS.						
Donation to Libraries and Reading Rooms					3,250	0
PREPARATION OF SCHOOL BOOKS.						
Sinhalese Books and Maps					1,941	59
BOOKS PURCHASED FOR SALE.						
English, Sinhalese, and Tamil Books ...					4,766	54
MISCELLANEOUS.						
Expenditure not chargeable under any of the above heads					3,341	90
					454,716	10

[*For* F 1 *see next page.*]

F 2.—Abstract of Cost and State of the several Classes of Grant-in-Aid Schools for 1887.

SCHOOLS.	Number of Schools.	Number of Pupils on List.	Average Attendance.	Receipts.	Government Expenditure.		Gross Cost to Government of Educating each Pupil.	
					Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
English, High ...	43	5,307	3,921	—	23,419	0	4	41
English, Elementary ...	41	2,467	1,650	—	10,381	76	4	20
Anglo-Vernacular ...	71	5,755	3,569	—	31,762	0	5	52
Vernacular ...	744	49,466	28,854	—	121,419	75	2	45
Total ...	899	62,995	37,994	—	186,982	51*	2	97

* This sum does not include the following items :—

	Rs.
Bonus to a Grant-in-aid Teacher (part payment)	14·50
Grants on account of the Cambridge Local Examination to private schools ...	125·00

F 1.—Abstract of Receipts, Cost, and State of the several Classes of Government Schools for 1887.

Schools.	No. of Schools.	No. of Pupils on List.	Average Daily Attendance.	Receipts. Fees.	Receipts. Stationery.	Receipts. Total.	Charges. Salaries.	Charges. Allowances.	Charges. Result Payments.	Charges. Furniture.	Charges. Books.	Charges. Stationery.	Charges. Sundries.	Charges. Total.	Cost of Educating each Pupil for the year. By Receipts.	Net Cost to Government.	Gross Cost.
Boys.				Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
English, High ...	2	300	274	11,942 98	—	11,942 98	30,491 91	—	—	36 70	725 10	189 80	3,694 1	35,137 52	39 80½	77 31½	117 12
English, Elementary ...	1	33	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	17 0	—	—	17 0	—	0 51	0 51
Anglo-Vernacular ...	22	2,399	1,521	1,232 29	67 43	1,299 72	21,214 22	1,119 0	1,132 50	34 46	116 26	186 78	1,838 23	25,641 45	0 54	10 14	10 68
Vernacular ...	331	24,729	13,622	—	138 38	138 38	87,422 34	4,085 75	3,102 40	969 91	1,010 3	832 84	948 12	98,371 39	—	3 97	3 97
Total Boys' ...	356	27,461	15,435	13,175 27	205 81	13,381 8	139,128 47	5,204 75	4,234 90	1,041 7	1,868 39	1,209 42	6,480 36	159,167 36	0 48½	5 30½	5 79
Girls.																	
English, High ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
English, Elementary ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Anglo-Vernacular ...	3	291	156	26 15	—	26 15	1,620 0	—	45 0	—	36 15	6 64	—	1,707 79	0 8½	5 77½	5 86
Vernacular ...	80	4,813	2,666	—	—	—	16,104 51	341 37	362 0	—	390 26	132 63	48 60	17,379 37	—	3 61	3 61
Total, Girls' ...	83	5,104	2,822	26 15	—	26 15	17,724 51	341 37	407 0	—	426 41	139 27	48 60	19,087 16	—	3 73	3 73
Grand Total ...	439	32,565	18,257	13,201 42	205 81	13,407 23	156,852 98	5,546 12	4,641 90	1,041 7	2,294 80	1,348 69	6,528 96	178,254 52	0 41	5 6	5 47

Colombo, April 5, 1888.

H. W. GREEN,
Director of Public Instruction.

RAILWAYS.

REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER FOR 1887.

I HAVE the honour to forward my report on the Ceylon Government Railways for the year 1887.

2. I also submit for the information of Government the reports on their respective Departments which have been furnished me by the Engineer of Way and Works, the Locomotive Engineer, and the Traffic Superintendent.

3. 1887 has been a singularly uneventful year for the railway, seeing that, with the exception of the final clearance of the Blackwater slip on the Nánu-oya extension, and the privilege to passengers of break of journey, no special works have been undertaken, and no changes made in the administration or traffic arrangements, which would in any way affect the working expenses or receipts. The steady reduction in the proportion of the working expenses to the receipts, year by year, since the re-organisation of the railway in 1885, when the General Manager, the Engineer of Way and Works, the Locomotive Engineer, and the Traffic Superintendent were appointed to their respective positions, is evidence of the success of that re-organisation and of the efforts of each officer to combine increased efficiency with reduced expenditure.

4. The increases in the receipts and profits are due, primarily, to the increased, and still fast increasing, prosperity of the Colony, consequent on the success and extension of the tea enterprise; secondarily, to the revision of the rates in 1886 and to the improved traffic arrangements mentioned in the reports for 1885 and 1886.

5. In 1887 no extension of the railway was made, and the length of the line remains at 180⅞ miles as in 1886.

6. The general results of the year's working are as follows:—

	Rs.
Receipts	2,947,628
Expenditure	1,466,001
Net profit	1,481,627

As compared with the previous year, this shows

An increase in Receipts of	259,753
Do. Expenditure of	14,285
Do. Net profit of	245,468

7. The debt on the railway for outstanding capital cost of construction on January 1, 1887, was Rs. 15,142,588. The profit on working for the year ending December 31, 1887, was Rs. 1,481,625, which is equal to 9·78 per cent. on the outstanding capital.

8. The working expenses have been reduced from 54 per cent. of the receipts in 1886 to 49·7 per cent.

9. In Coaching traffic there is an increase in the receipts of Rs. 93,289, due to an increase in the number of passengers of all classes, but more especially in the third and cooly classes. The success of tea, and the greatly increased number of visitors to the Island from Europe, Australia, and India, account for this.

10. In Goods traffic the net increase is Rs. 165,190, from tea, rice, first class goods, second class goods, arrack, and manure. The products which show a decrease are coffee, cinchona, and cocoanuts.

11. As regards the Expenditure. The working expenses of the Traffic Department amount to Rs. 335,700, or Rs. 21,831 over last year,—an extremely small increase when it is borne in mind that 147,771 additional ordinary passengers, 406 additional season-ticket holders, and 5,861 additional tons of goods were carried.

12. The expenditure of the Maintenance Department is Rs. 367,709, or Rs. 5,987 less than last year, notwithstanding that extra relaying to the extent of 200 tons of steel rails has been accomplished.

13. The expenditure in the Locomotive and Carriage Department is Rs. 691,300, or Rs. 14,901 less than last year. Of this reduction, Rs. 5,187 is in engine power, although a considerably greater traffic has been worked. To but two new boilers in 1887, as compared with four in 1886, may be chiefly ascribed the reduced expenditure for repairs.

14. The approximate results for the year of each section of the Railway System are as follows, viz.:—

	Earnings. Rs.	Working Expenses. Rs.	Profit. Rs.	Loss. Rs.
Main Line	1,844,266	722,718	1,121,548	—
Coast Line	254,745	227,692	27,053	—
Mátalé Line	86,130	95,030	—	8,900
Náwalapitiya Line ...	294,802	155,220	139,582	—
Nánu-oya Line ...	467,683	252,622	215,061	—

15. On each section there has been an increase in the receipts, and although the Mátalé line appears to have been worked at a loss of Rs. 8,900, yet, as a feeder to the Main line, it has undoubtedly been of advantage.

16. The Main line shows an increase of Rs. 129,041 in receipts and a decrease of Rs. 37,650 in working expenses; and as no great increase of traffic has accrued to the Main line from Main line stations, and no such exceptional reduction made in the expense of working the Main line, it is evident that this gain of Rs. 166,691 is due to the traffic thrown upon it by the Nánu-oya and Mátalé sections, and to the proportion of the working expenses they have had to bear; and this should not be overlooked in considering their financial success.

17. The Coast line, notwithstanding its ample service of almost universally well-filled trains, will, as an almost purely passenger line, compare unfavourably with the other sections, where the goods traffic is so rapidly on the increase, unless the line be extended to Galle and Mátara. Even a portion of this length—viz., to Bentoṭa—will, as shown in my report on the Bentoṭa extension, be very advantageous to the existing line.

18. I would strongly urge that this Sea Coast extension be constructed departmentally, with all possible speed, to Mátara, when a large goods traffic will be secured in addition to a longer-distance, and therefore better-paying passenger traffic.

19. The Mátalé line again shows a loss, but the receipts have gone up by Rs. 6,054 over the previous year, while the working expenses have slightly gone down. I feel assured, however, that this is the last year for which I shall have to report a loss, and that the Mátalé line will, in the course of a few years, fully realise the sanguine expectations of its promoters.

20. The Náwalapiṭiya line shows an increase of Rs. 27,446 on the receipts. This is a very satisfactory result, seeing that the traffic actually brought to the stations on the Náwalapiṭiya line is now really much less than before the opening of the Nánu-oya extension, which extension has not only caught a considerable portion of the former Náwalapiṭiya traffic at a more distant point, but has secured such extra traffic (formerly sent by cart) as to add to the Náwalapiṭiya receipts a sum of over Rs. 27,000 obtained from the mileage proportion allowed it for working the extra traffic over it.

21. Rs. 13,000 more than last year have been spent in relaying with steel rails, &c., a portion of the Náwalapiṭiya branch, and as the total working expenses show an increase of Rs. 10,269 only, it follows that the cost of actual working has been reduced.

22. The Nánu-oya line shows an increase of Rs. 74,715 in the receipts apportioned to it; and seeing that this is the most distant section of the railway, and that all the traffic to and from it must pass over the Náwalapiṭiya branch and the Main line, the additional traffic secured by the Nánu-oya extension must necessarily benefit these lines, and, as I have before mentioned, has had the effect of increasing the Náwalapiṭiya receipts this year to the extent of Rs. 27,446, and, in conjunction with the Mátalé branch, of adding Rs. 129,041 to the Main line. If credit be given to the Mátalé line for Rs. 9,041 of this latter, it becomes evident that the Nánu-oya extension has benefited the railway this year to the extent of Rs. 222,161 (viz., Rs. 74,715 + Rs. 27,446 + Rs. 120,000) more than last,—a result which speaks volumes for the bounds at which the traffic is advancing.

23. I would draw attention to the tabular statements prepared by Mr. J. C. Farquharson, the Railway Accountant, appended to this report, which, I think, will be found to furnish almost all the statistical information in connection with the railway which can now be given.

24. I would take this opportunity of expressing my obligations to the Hon. Lieut.-Colonel F. C. H. Clarke, R.A., C.M.G., Surveyor-General, for having consented to act for me during my leave of absence in Europe of seven months, viz., from February 20 to September 19.

25. The upkeep of the railway, the maintenance of the rolling stock, and the working of the traffic have been satisfactorily carried out under the immediate superintendence of Mr. W. Cantrell, Engineer of Way and Works, Mr. R. F. Trevithick, Locomotive Engineer, and Mr. A. G. Perman, Traffic Superintendent.

General Manager's Office,
Colombo, April 28, 1888.

W. T. PEARCE,
General Manager.

APPENDIX.

I.—Casualties during 1887.

January 16.—A Sinhalese man run over and killed by 7.35 A.M. up train.
February 13.—Two wagons of a special goods train derailed at Galboda.
February 14.—Platelaying cooly knocked down and killed by engine of 10.25 A.M. down train.
March 1.—A native man run over and killed by 2.15 P.M. train.
March 16.—A Tamil cooly knocked down and killed by engine of 7.30 A.M. up train.
March 16.—A native boy knocked down and killed by engine of 5.15 P.M. down train.
April 13.—A native girl run over and killed by 2.25 P.M. down train.
April 14.—Rock and earthslip on Kaḍugannáwa incline.
May 21.—A native man run over and killed by 5.35 A.M. train
July 6.—Engine of 11.40 special goods train disabled at Pérádeniya.
August 7. A woman run over and killed by 6.35 P.M. train.
August 24.—10 A.M. goods train derailed at Waṭawala.
August 31.—Gate No. 16 smashed by engine of 5 A.M. down train.
September 13.—Train porter of 9.25 A.M. injured by the buffers when coupling up.
September 16.—A Sinhalese woman injured by falling between the platform and carriages when attempting to leave a train in motion.
November 7.—A native woman and cooly knocked down and killed by 9.30 A.M. down train.
November 10. A man knocked down and killed by 9.30 A.M. down train.
November 16. A woman run over and killed by 5.20 P.M. down train.
November 25.—Rockslip on Mátalé line.
December 21. Rock and earthslip on Mátalé line.
December 22.—Engine of 12 noon up train derailed at 18th mile by running over a buffalo.
December 25.—Rock and earthslip on Kaḍugannáwa incline.
December 27.—Engine and tender of 4.55 P.M. up train derailed, and four wagons destroyed between Polgahawela and Rambukkana by running over three buffaloes.

II.—General Revenue and Statistical Tables for 1887.

The Accountant, Ceylon Government Railways, to the General Manager.

No. 325. Accountant's Office, April 28, 1888.

SIR,—ENCLOSED I have the honour to hand you the General Revenue and Statistical Tables for 1887.

On the tables showing the receipts and working expenses from 1865 to 1887 inclusive, the figures for 1887 have been worked on two different mileages:

(1) The system in force up to 1884, of adding one-eighth of the traffic mileage to the traffic mileage as shunting (in 1885 and 1886 the Locomotive and Traffic Departments each based their calculations on a different mileage).

(2) On the traffic mileage only, exclusive of shunting. (The shunting mileage as returned is not complete, as it does not include the roadside shunting.)

The Locomotive Engineer has based the figures in his report on traffic plus service mileage.

The sectional earnings for this year have been worked out on the actual passenger and ton mileage, and are therefore fairly accurate.

From the receipts for 1886 I have deducted Rs. 19,553·66, and from 1887 Rs. 7,699·91, being the transport charges collected during the Blackwater slip, and which were in 1887 drawn against the Railway Service votes and credited to Nánu-oya construction.

The total, Rs. 27,253·57, has also been deducted from the Traffic Department sundry charges.

I have &c.,
J. C. FARQUHARSON,
Accountant.

1.—Nánu-oya Railway Construction Account up to December 31, 1887.

Dr.	To end of 1886.	In 1887.	Total.	*Cr.*	Amount.
	Rs c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.		Rs.
To Under Contract ...	6,908,767 24	—	6,908,767 24	By Loans and Debentures to end of 1886 ...	12,173,473 94
Beyond Contract ...	1,696,874 86	58,911 46	1,755,786 32	Amount credited account beyond Contract* ...	32,087 16
Engineering and Administration ...	706,702 43	23,463 67	730,166 10	Amount credited account Rolling Stock† ...	244 15
Land and Compensation...	446,802 10	1,212 26	448,014 36	Amount credited account Contingencies‡ ...	93 5
Rolling Stock ...	827,902 60	11,789 35	839,691 95		
Electric Telegraph ...	23,887 61	—	23,887 61		
Contingencies ...	242,042 17	81 4	242,123 21		
	10,852,979 1	95,457 78	10,948,436 79		
			1,257,461 51		
			12,205,898 30		12,205,898 30

	Rs. c.
* Amount transferred from revenue to credit of this account (transport charge on goods conveyed during Blackwater slip) in 1886	19,553 66
Do. Do. in 1887	7,699 91
	27,253 57
Amount realised by sale of furniture and materials, &c., belonging to the Nánu-oya railway	3,967 13
Amount realised by sale of materials, &c., used on account of Blackwater slip	866 46
Total...	32,087 16
† Amount debited in error now re-credited to this account	244 15
‡ Amount credited in error to revenue now transferred to this account ...	93 5

Particulars of Expenditure beyond Contract during 1887.

	General Manager.		Way & Works Department.		Locomotive Department.		Traffic Department.		Crown Agents.		Total.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Blackwater Slip :—												
Transferring: goods wages and material ...	2,359	1	1,935	99	—		1,284	37	—		5,579	37
Wire tramway ...	—		3,694	63	—		—		—		3,694	63
Payment to P. W. D. ...	6,589	37	91	19	—		—		—		6,680	56
Clearing slip ...	—		21,338	81	849	91	—		—		22,188	72
Sloping cutting ...	—		2,306	59	—		—		—		2,306	59
Telegraph charges ...	39	85	—		—		—		—		39	85
Total, Blackwater Slip ...	8,988	23	29,367	21	849	91	1,284	37	—		40,489	72
Buildings for permanent staff	—		16,662	39	—		—		—		16,662	39
Advertisement, &c., connected with Nánu-oya surplus stock	409	86	92	1	—		—		—		501	87
Professional charges ...	—		—		—		—		1,257	48	1,257	48
Total ...	9,398	9	46,121	61	849	91	1,284	37	1,257	48	58,911	46

2.—Bentota Extension Survey.—Statement of Expenditure for 1887.

	Rs.	c.		Rs.	c.
To Amount expended during 1887 ...	596	56	By Advance authorised ...	1,000	0
Balance carried to 1888 ...	403	44			
Total ...	1,000	0	Total ...	1,000	0

3.—Haputalé Extension.—Statement of Expenditure for 1887.

	Rs	c.		Rs	c.
To Amount expended in England ...	1,271	2	By Amount provided in Supplementary Estimate for 1887 ...	1,271	2
Fee to Mr. Waring for report on Mr. Prestage's papers on the Darjeeling-Himalayan Railway ...	525	59	Amount to be provided for in the Final Supplementary Estimate for 1887	525	59
Total ...	1,796	61	Total ...	1,796	61

4.—New Works for 1887.

	Rs.	c.
Building bridge at the 12¼ mile	5,261	34
Extending siding at Mahara	777	19
Crossing station at Alagalla	6,533	17
Extending siding at Pettah	148	3
Total ...	12,719	73

5.—General Revenue Account for 1887.

	Rs.	c.				Rs.	c.
To Maintenance	367,708	77	By Passengers			858,336	77
Locomotive Power ..	581,957	92	Horses			11,721	28
Repairs of Carriages and Wagons	109,342	27	Carriages			5,424	2
Traffic Charges	297,780	34*	Dogs			2,728	25
Police Charges	31,456	69	Parcels ...			61,924	91
Telegraph Charges ...	33,716	73	Mails			22,616	0
General Charges	58,572	88	Merchandise			1,963,010	47†
New Works	12,719	73	Live Stock			5,557	95
			Rent			7,583	15
	1,493,255	33	Warehouse Rent... ...			3,762	25
Balance	1,462,072	21	Miscellaneous: General	5,404	59		
			Locomotive	111	94		
			Way and Works	6,953	4.		
			Railway Stores	192	51		
						12,662	49
Total ...	2,955,327	54	Total ...			2,955,327	54

* This includes the sum of Rs. 27,253·57, which is practically a cross entry, being transport charges collected, viz., Rs. 19,553·66 in 1886 and Rs. 7,699·91 in 1887, credited to revenue in those years and transferred to Nánu-oya Construction Account in 1887.

† This includes the sum of Rs. 7,699·91 collected as transport charges over Blackwater slip.

6.—Working Expenses, 1887, compared with 1886.

1886. Amount.	1886. Percentage of Receipts.	1886. Cost per Mile open.	1886. Cost per Train Mile		1887. Amount.	1887. Percentage of Receipts.	1887. Cost per Mile open.	1887. Cost per Train Mile.
Rs. c.		Rs. c.	Rs. c.	*Maintenance of Way, Works, and Buildings.*	Rs. c.		Rs. c.	Rs. c.
52,229 60	1·9	289 16	0 9	General superintendence ...	51,493 76	1·8	285 9	0 9
115,376 38	4·3	638 76	0 21	Maintenance of Way { Wages ...	108,645 72	3·7	601 50	0 19
168,639 22	6·3	933 64	0 30	Maintenance of Way { Materials ...	169,083 10	5·7	936 10	0 30
6,947 82	0·3	38 47	0 1	Maintenance by contract ...	—	—	—	—
11,064 23	0·4	61 26	0 2	Repairs of bridges and tunnels ...	7,697 50	0·3	42 62	0 1
17,380 8	0·6	96 22	0 3	Repairs of stations and buildings..	27,898 38	0·9	154 45	0 5
2,058 88	0·1	11 40	—	Sundry charges ...	2,890 31	0·1	16 0	0 1
373,696 21	13·9	2,068 91	0 66		367,708 77	12·5	2,035 76	0 65
				Locomotive Power.				
48,169 35	1·8	266 68	0 9	General superintendence ...	51,570 8	1·7	285 51	0 9
141,681 0	5·3	784 39	0 25	Wages of enginemen and firemen	141,097 88	4·8	781 16	0 25
17,799 24	0·7	98 54	0 3	Wages of fuelmen and cleaners ...	18,497 70	0·6	102 41	0 3
79,913 3	3·0	442 42	0 14	Repairs { Wages ...	84,312 26	2·9	466 78	0 15
86,314 56	3·2	477 87	0 15	Repairs { Materials ...	69,488 10	2·4	384 71	0 12
180,641 39	6·7	1,000 9	0 32	Fuel ...	181,771 54	6·2	1,006 35	0 32
23,847 16	0·9	132 3	0 4	Oil, tallow, waste, &c. ...	25,344 76	0·8	140 32	0 4
4,357 68	0·1	24 13	0 1	Water ...	4,471 62	0·1	24 75	0 1
4,121 65	0·2	21 48	0 1	Sundry charges ...	5,403 98	0·2	29 92	0 1
587,145 6	21·9	3,250 63	1 4		581,957 92	19·7	3,221 91	1 2
				Repairs of Carriages and Wagons.				
16,520 81	0·6	91 46	0 3	General superintendence ...	14,687 67	0·5	81 31	0 3
41,198 19	1·5	228 9	0 7	Repairs { Wages ...	35,590 26	1·2	197 4	0 6
44,106 90	1·7	245 85	0 8	Repairs { Materials ...	44,004 84	1·5	243 62	0 8
5,719 74	0·2	31 67	0 1	Wages of cleaners and greasers ...	5,819 8	0·2	32 22	0 1
10,751 54	0·4	59 52	0 2	Oil, grease, and other stores ...	8,563 20	0·3	47 41	0 1
459 10	—	2 54	—	Sundry charges ...	677 22	—	3 75	—
119,056 28	4·4	659 13	0 21		109,342 27	3·7	605 35	0 19
				Traffic Charges.				
28,081 83	1·0	155 47	0 5	General superintendence ...	28,128 41	1·0	155 73	0 5
82,809 22	3·1	458 46	0 15	Salaries of station masters, clerks, &c.	83,855 49	2·8	464 25	0 15
39,874 26	1·5	220 76	0 7	Wages and clothing of pointsmen, porters, &c. ...	41,602 47	1·4	230 33	0 7
60,482 25	2·2	334 85	0 11	Wages and clothing of guards and shunters	62,170 21	2·1	344 19	0 11
18,635 91	0·7	103 17	0 3	Cost of loading and unloading goods	19,823 53	0·7	109 75	0 3
7,066 75	0·3	39 12	0 1	Lighting, stores, and furnishings for stations	7,087 57	0·2	39 24	0 1
7,206 18	0·3	39 90	0 1	Stationery, printing, and advertising	8,636 85	0·3	47 81	0 2
5,107 24	0·2	28 28	0 1	Sundry charges	19,222 24*	0·7	106 42	0 3
249,263 64	9·3	1,380 1	0 44		270,526 77	9·2	1,497 72	0 47
				Police Charges.				
15,339 30	0·6	84 92	0 3	Wages and clothing of policemen	15,544 79	0·5	86 6	6 3
13,295 43	0·5	73 61	0 2	Do. gatemen	13,466 49	0·5	74 55	0 2
2,661 41	0·1	14 73	0 1	Oil and stores for police and gatemen	2,445 41	0·1	13 55	0 1
31,296 14	1·2	173 26	0 6		31,456 69	1·1	174 16	0 6
				Telegraph Charges.				
19,617 39	0·7	108 61	0 4	Salaries of superintendents and signallers	19,709 2	0·7	109 12	0 4
12,289 32	0·5	68 4	0 2	Wages of batterymen and materials	12,435 96	0·4	68 85	0 2
1,402 73	—	7 76	—	Sundry charges	1,571 75	0·0	8 70	—
33,309 44	1·2	184 41	0 6		33,716 73	1·1	186 67	0 6
				General Charges.				
33,998 93	1·3	188 23	0 6	Audit Pay Accountant's Office ..	36,675 80	1·2	203 5	0 6
2,515 57	0·1	13 93	—	Crown Agent's Office ...	1,950 99	0·1	10 80	—
14,253 30	0·5	78 91	0 3	General Stores Department ...	14,723 91	0·5	81 52	0 3
606 97	—	3 36	—	Compensation	3,337 56	0·1	18 48	0 1
2,923 95	0·1	16 19	0 1	Sundry charges	1,884 62	0·1	10 43	—
54,298 72	2·0	300 62	0 10		58,572 88	2·0	324 28	0 10
3,650 86	0·1	20 21	0 1	New works	12,719 73	0·4	70 42	0 2
1,451,716 35	54·0	8,037 18	2 58	Total ...	1,466,001 76	49·7	8,116 27	2 57

* The sum of Rs. 27,253·57 has been omitted, being a cross entry on account of transport charges credited to revenue during 1886–1887. This amount has also been deducted from the receipts of the two years, and transferred to the Nánuoya Construction Account.

7.—Statement showing the Number of Miles opened per annum from October 2, 1865, to December 31, 1887.

Date of Opening.	Between which Points opened.	For what Class of Traffic.	Main Line.	Coast Line.	Breakwater Line.	Wharf Line.	Náwalapiṭiya Line.	Mátalé Line.	Nánu-oya Line.	Total in one year.
			M. C.	M. C.	M. C.	M. C.	M. C.	M. C.	M. C.	M. C.
October 2, 1865	Colombo to Ambépussa ...	Coaching ...	34 45	—	—	—	—	—	—	34 45
January 1, 1866	Do. ..	Goods ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
November 1, 1866	Ambépussa to Polgahawela	Coaching & goods	10 69	—	—	—	—	—	—	10 69
August 1, 1867	Polgahawela to Kandy ...	Coaching ...	29 11	—	—	—	—	—	—	29 11
September 16, 1867	Do. ...	Goods partially...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
October 1, 1867	Do. ...	Goods wholly ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
January 15, 1873	Pérádeniya to Gampola ...	Goods ...	—	—	—	—	7 60	—	—	7 60
February 1, 1873	Do. ...	Coaching ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
July 16, 1874	Colombo to Fort ...	—	—	1 48	—	—	—	—	—	12 52
Do.	Mahara Quarry to Mahara Junction ...	—	—	—	1 35	—	—	—	—	
Do.	Fort point to Breakwater Yard ...	—	—	—	0 45	—	—	—	—	
December 1, 1874	Gampola to Náwalapiṭiya	Goods ...	—	—	—	—	9 4	—	—	
December 21, 1874	Do. ...	Coaching ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
March 1, 1877	Fort to Moraṭuwa ..	Coaching ...	—	11 61	—	—	—	—	—	16 25
September 1, 1877	Moraṭuwa to Pánaduré ...	Coaching ..	—	4 44	—	—	—	—	—	
May 27, 1878	Breakwater Yard to Wharf	Goods ...		—	—	0 53	—	—	—	0 53
February 1, 1879	Pánaduré to Kalutára North ...	Coaching ...	—	8 35	—	—	—	—	—	9 57
September 22, 1879	Kalutara North to Kalutara South ...	Coaching & goods	—	1 22	—	—	—	—	—	
October 4, 1880	Kandy to Mátalé ...	Do. ...	—	—	—	—	—	17 49	—	17 49
June 4, 1884	Náwalapiṭiya to Hatton ...	Do. ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	20 60	28 47
November 20, 1884	Hatton to Talawakęlé ...	Do. ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	7 67	
May 20, 1885	Talawakęlé to Nánu-oya...	Do. ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	12 59	12 59
			74 45	27 50	2 0	0 53	16 64	17 49	41 26	180 47

8.—Statement showing Traffic Receipts for each Month during 1887.

(This shows only Freight Earnings, and does not include Miscellaneous Receipts of any kind.)

Month.	Coaching.		Goods.		Live Stock.	Total.	
	Passengers.	Receipts.	Quantity.	Amount.		1887.	1886.
	No.	Rs. c.	Tons. cwt.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
January ...	165,315	82,529 88	14,294 3	189,046 53*	375 50	271,951 91	250,694 52
February ...	148,695	72,201 14	14,371 15	157,460 59†	587 25	230,248 98	218,677 85
March ...	158,370	79,390 15	12,653 2	163,705 20	333 25	243,428 60	223,451 30
April ...	160,571	85,306 66	12,070 15	145,318 76	493 50	231,118 92	217,188 41
May ...	166,098	84,530 57	14,474 13	160,556 85	452 0	245,539 42	215,902 83
June ...	167,913	82,635 73	12,946 7	144,385 83	419 50	227,441 6	204,102 36
July ...	165,334	80,564 49	12,097 3	154,303 66	463 57	235,331 72	216,430 38
August ...	169,607	78,906 93	13,393 14	145,497 54	492 25	224,896 72	200,870 23
September ...	155,231	73,274 72	14,030 8	158,940 62	420 75	232,636 9	198,727 75
October ...	163,554	77,187 32	12,730 16	163,527 14	689 38	241,403 84	226,963 88
November ...	165,131	75,889 9	14,919 16	184,834 44	404 75	261,128 28	232,910 19
December ...	183,615	90,334 55	14,312 1	195,433 31	426 25	286,194 11	278,080 69
Total ...	1,969,434	962,751 23	162,294 13	1,963,010 47	5,557 95	2,931,319 65	2,684,000 69‡

* This includes Rs. 6,497·28 transport charges. † This includes Rs. 1,202·63 transport charges.

‡ This includes Rs. 19,553·66 transport charges, viz. :—

	Rs.	c.
August ...	620	3
September ...	3,049	18
October ...	4,595	12
November ...	4,917	72
December ...	6,371	61
	19,553	66

9.—Comparative Statement of Traffic and Receipts for 1886 and 1887.

COACHING.

	Passengers, including Excess.								Season Tickets.						Other Earnings.									Total Coaching Receipts.
	First Class.		Second Class.		Third Class.		Coolies.		First Class.		Second Class.		Third Class.		Horses.		Carriages.		Dogs.		Parcels.		Mails.	
	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.		Amount.
		Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c		Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c.		Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
1886 ...	35,311	63,655 48	121,538	95,348 36	1,652,287	592,586 70	9,373	6,197 46	132	2,691 46	439	2,613 70	2,177	7,947 70	1,593	11,693 90	432	5,690 22	4,283	2,447 0	140,626	55,974 54	22,616 0	869,462 52
1887 ...	39,334	69,956 40	125,437	99,683 54	1,776,526	660,269 48	24,983	13,846 28	157	2,599 64	453	2,453 45	2,544	9,527 98	1,484	11,721 28	403	5,424 2	4,923	2,728 25	152,487	61,924 91	22,616 0	962,751 23
Increase ...	4,023	6,300 92	3,899	4,335 18	124,239	67,682 78	15,610	7,648 82	25	—	14	—	367	1,580 28	—	27 38	—	—	640	281 25	11,861	5,950 37	—	93,288 71
Decrease ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	91 82	—	160 25	—	—	109	—	29	266 20	—	—	—	—	—	—

GOODS.

	First Class Goods.	Arrack.	Cocoanut.	Cocoanut Oil.	Coffee.	Tea.	Cinchona.	Rice.	Salt.	Other Second Class Goods.	Timber.	Plumbago.	Manure.	Other Third Class Goods.	Railway Material.	Breakwater Material.	Waterworks Material.	Public Works and Prison Department Material.	Total.	Total Goods Receipts.
	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.	Rs. c.
1886 ...	3,480 11	943 4	3,251 16	1,557 5	10,119 0	3,514 4	5,867 8	48,284 11	3,367 13	37,009 0	2,130 14	6,208 15	1,881 19	5,655 14	13,429 1	2,586 8	4,064 11	3,081 17	156,433 11	1,809,675 6*
1887 ...	4,396 4	1,237 4	2,982 18	1,585 1	7,925 11	6,714 4	4,914 8	50,816 9	2,941 11	40,780 9	2,452 10	6,223 0	2,506 15	5,862 7	12,947 8	—	—	8,0 08 14	162,294 13	1,963,010 47†
Increase ...	915 13	294 0	—	27 16	—	3,200 0	—	2,531 18	—	3,771 9	321 16	14 5	624 16	206 13	—	—	—	4,926 17	5861 2	153,335 41
Decrease ...	—	—	268 18	—	2,193 9	—	953 0	—	426 2	—	—	—	—	—	481 13	2,586 8	4,064 11	—	—	—

	LIVE STOCK.			MISCELLANEOUS.					SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS.				
	Cattle.	Sheep.	Amount.	Warehouse Rent.	Rent.	Sale of old Material.	Other Miscellaneous.	Total Amount.	Coaching.	Goods.	Live Stock.	Miscellaneous.	Total.
	No.	No.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
1886	570	12,878	4,863 11	2,677 98	7,187 80	12,472 81	1,089 94	23,428 53	869,462 52	1,809,675 6	4,863 11	23,428 53	2,707,429 22
1887	560	15,823	5,557 95	3,762 25	7,583 15	7,257 90	5,404 59	24,007 89	962,751 23	1,963,010 47	5,557 95	24,007 89	2,955,327 54
Increase ...	—	2,945	694 84	1,084 27	395 35	—	4,314 65	579 36	93,288 71	153,335 41	694 84	579 36	247,898 32
Decrease ...	10	—	—	—	—	5,214 91	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

* This includes Rs. 19,553·66 collected as transport charges over Blackwater slip and subsequently transferred to Nánu-oya Construction Account.
† Do. Rs. 7,699·91 do. do. do. do.

10.—Revenue and Expenditure of each Station, with other Particulars, for the Year ended December 31, 1887.

Stations.	Average No. of hands employed, including Station Master.	Total Expenditure.	No. of Tickets issued.	Revenue from Tickets and Coaching Traffic.	Goods. Outward.	Goods. Inward.	Goods. Amount collected.	Live Stock. Horned Cattle.	Live Stock. Small Cattle.	Live Stock. Amount Collected.	Total Amount Collected.
		Rs. c.		Rs. c.	Tons. cwt.	Tons. cwt.	Rs. c.	No.	No.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Colombo ...	69	26778 17	48257	109093 81	85631 0	38089 7	1042468 28	197	4387	2557 32	1154119 41
Wharf ...	6	2045 63	—	—	10148 13	2617 0	84762 23	—	—	—	84762 23
Maradána Junction	12	4072 7	93983	30960 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	30960 1
Kelaniya ...	9	2166 66	22403	10350 3	—	—	—	—	—	—	10350 3
Hunupitiya ...	6	1889 33	6407	2858 59	—	—	—	—	—	—	2858 59
Mahara ...	7	1980 75	12348	5512 40	224 18	1280 11	6149 89	—	11	21 75	11684 4
Henaratgoda ...	4	1469 35	25302	12335 6	786 10	252 1	6235 31	—	—	—	18570 37
Veyangoda ...	5	1889 67	25024	14354 20	1309 9	515 2	1758 10	—	47	53 25	16165 55
Mirigama ...	5	1671 63	12737	7010 79	1443 9	617 19	2535 48	6	1	8 50	9554 77
Ambépussa ...	6	1812 44	6306	3679 75	471 7	305 3	1704 27	—	—	—	5384 2
Polgahawela ...	13	4132 22	32491	31752 8	10980 5	6003 17	32422 85	65	16	150 25	64325 18
Rambukkana ...	17	4551 31	9855	6541 94	1978 8	2232 3	6719 34	4	—	7 50	13268 78
Kadugamuwa ...	3	1450 25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Allagalla ...	3	1333 27	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Balani ...	3	1395 41	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kadugannáwa ...	16	4999 95	16035	9764 66	799 8	1823 9	10826 80	4	1	17 0	20608 46
Pérádeniya ...	23	6882 17	24118	11518 4	526 13	817 14	4231 26	6	—	10 50	15759 80
Kandy ...	49	21776 27	97477	102427 38	7951 16	22630 1	230849 27	79	191	457 25	333733 90
Mahaiyáwa ...	4	1254 36	22672	8415 95	—	—	—	—	—	—	8415 95
Katugastota ...	7	2131 30	12755	4078 47	1457 12	323 17	3041 79	—	—	—	7120 26
Wattagama ...	10	3463 89	30010	10875 35	1452 12	3184 10	30162 17	25	3	67 50	41105 2
Ukuwela ...	2	933 12	7131	2451 67	—	—	—	—	—	—	2451 67
Mátalé ...	13	5555 24	55201	37754 62	3488 7	6212 12	46928 14	67	10950	1706 13	86388 89
Gampola ..	23	8962 47	70400	38971 41	3581 5	9011 14	72076 9	13	2	55 0	111102 50
Náwalapitiya ...	28	10727 42	79407	50484 68	3794 10	17666 3	71827 67	20	214	104 25	122416 60
Galboda ...	6	2337 66	5982	2559 10	193 1	463 9	786 88	—	—	2 0	3347 98
Blackwater Slip ...	3	191 50	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Watawala ...	7	3058 84	12887	8661 11	934 0	1973 14	4505 22	—	—	—	13166 33
Hatton ...	17	7009 9	55695	52007 56	6250 2	17249 9	136171 25	20	—	71 50	188250 31
Kotagala ...	6	2374 64	13662	7189 87	829 16	2360 18	6155 14	—	—	—	13345 1
Talawakelé ...	12	4590 8	29648	24611 65	3434 13	6948 4	48793 21	8	—	72 75	73477 61
Watagoda ...	5	2417 72	7436	4435 56	427 1	1209 0	1872 66	16	—	23 25	6331 47
Nánu-oya ...	14	8262 77	18975	40000 85	3945 14	8463 19	93600 69	21	—	157 50	133759 4
Pettah ...	16	5355 90	227185	56342 7	—	—	—	—	—	—	56342 7
Fort ...	16	4763 8	60159	15312 16	—	—	—	—	—	—	15312 16
Slave Island ...	11	3509 40	68452	18487 89	—	—	—	—	—	—	18487 89
Kollupitiya ...	4	1573 18	73440	12390 41	—	—	—	—	—	—	12390 41
Bambalapitiya ...	5	1709 39	56265	7362 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	7362 1
Wellawatta ...	3	1375 86	57147	6328 25	—	—	—	—	—	—	6328 25
Dehiwala ...	3	1355 58	63679	9439 60	—	—	—	—	—	—	9439 60
Mount Lavinia ...	9	3488 63	59920	12309 39	—	—	—	—	—	—	12309 39
Angulána ..	3	1364 90	31113	6709 70	—	—	—	—	—	—	6709 70
Lunáwa ..	3	1185 18	54309	12330 88	—	—	—	—	—	—	12330 88
Moratuwa ...	9	3446 23	109889	25336 17	849 14	627 14	4581 59	9	—	14 75	29932 51
Pánaduré ...	8	3156 36	85942	22213 16	574 0	236 19	2651 53	—	—	—	24864 69
Wadduwa ...	5	1571 28	42617	9015 14	—	—	—	—	—	—	9015 14
Kalutara North ...	3	1331 31	33505	11627 42	—	—	—	—	—	—	11627 42
Kalutara South ...	19	6393 58	88054	49565 32	821 16	1169 10	4323 18	—	—	—	53888 50
Total, Stations...	530	197146 51	1966280	925426 16	154285 19	154285 19	1958140 29	560	15823	5557 95	2889124 40
Running Staff.											
Guards ...	37	43440 49	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bank Riders ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gate Inspectors ...	2	720 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Train Porters ...	7	1502 63	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Special Allowances	—	11282 53	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Special Trains ...	—	—	—	128 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	128 0
Season Tickets ...	—	—	3154	14581 7	—	—	—	—	—	—	14581 7
Mails ...	—	—	—	22616 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	22616 0
Stone Traffic ...	—	—	—	—	8008 14	8008 14	4870 18	—	—	—	4870 18
	576	254092 16	1969434	962751 23	162294 13	162294 13	1963010 47*	560	15823	5557 95	2931319 65

* This includes Rs. 7,699·91 collected as transport charges over Blackwater slip and subsequently transferred to Nánu-oya Construction Account.

11.—Statement showing Quantity and Description of Goods forwarded from each Goods Station.

Stations.	First Class.	Rice.	Tea	Arrack.	Salt.	Other Second Class Goods.	Coffee.	Cocoa-nut.	Cocoa-nut Oil.	Coppe-rah.	Cin-chona.	Cinna-mon.	Cocoa.	Carda-moms.	Timber.	Tea Shooks.	Beer. at Third Class Rate.	Manure.	Plum-bago.	Other Third Class Goods.	Railway Mate-rial.	Total.
	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.
Colombo ...	2893 19	48599 14	3 1	—	2311 19	21826 2	—	6 10	16 7	—	0 12	—	—	—	299 15	851 11	—	2237 5	—	2362 2	4222 3	85631 0
Wharf ...	200 6	987 3	—	—	111 0	1510 13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	111 7	—	130 13	—	1537 16	5559 15	10148 13
Mahara ...	5 11	4 1	—	—	—	195 8	—	9 5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0 6	10 7	224 18
Henaratgoḍa ...	4 4	0 13	5 8	—	—	536 15	—	223 14	—	—	0 11	—	—	—	11 5	—	—	—	—	4 0	—	786 10
Véyangoḍa ...	10 0	—	—	—	—	522 9	—	426 0	159 0	53 0	—	7 0	—	—	15 0	—	—	43 0	58 0	—	16 0	1309 9
Mirigama ...	3 5	1 0	—	—	—	88 5	—	448 5	86 0	185 0	—	4 0	—	—	25 10	—	—	—	585 0	15 0	2 4	1443 9
Ambépussa ...	—	—	—	—	—	181 0	—	38 0	2 0	147 0	—	—	—	—	65 7	—	—	—	3 0	—	35 0	471 7
Polgahawela ...	18 0	15 0	13 0	—	105 0	2659 14	110 0	759 0	935 13	521 0	—	—	85 0	2 0	405 5	—	—	5 0	5313 13	—	33 0	10980 5
Rambukkana ...	1 0	20 0	114 0	—	—	1329 0	11 0	226 0	—	9 0	21 0	—	20 0	2 0	177 8	—	—	—	25 0	14 0	9 0	1978 8
Kaḍugannáwa ...	47 19	8 17	21 10	—	—	437 17	19 2	93 19	—	0 6	11 6	2 0	7 8	1 4	54 11	—	—	—	—	—	93 9	799 8
Péradeniya ...	4 10	21 0	60 10	—	—	193 0	22 10	19 0	21 15	—	91 5	2 0	13 10	4 5	—	—	—	—	—	—	73 8	526 13
Kandy ...	787 16	510 0	449 1	24 12	318 5	2450 18	1020 19	333 4	213 15	—	561 11	8 12	324 14	46 0	102 4	1 8	—	65 17	180 11	158 19	393 10	7951 16
Kaṭugastoṭa ...	0 10	0 10	82 0	—	—	548 12	10 10	13 0	—	—	54 0	—	16 0	23 10	15 10	—	—	21 0	—	—	672 10	1457 12
Wattégama ...	8 3	30 1	381 10	—	—	128 13	68 17	—	—	—	297 18	1 7	65 2	22 11	5 0	—	—	—	—	—	443 10	1452 12
Mátalé ...	74 15	10 5	86 10	—	3 5	813 0	330 18	91 10	—	—	156 10	0 5	217 10	47 15	1095 0	1 10	—	4 0	3 5	45 14	506 15	3488 7
Gampola ...	20 0	187 0	655 0	6 0	1 0	723 0	466 5	39 0	5 0	—	881 0	—	2 0	6 0	—	7 0	—	—	2 0	441 0	140 0	3581 5
Nawalapiṭiya ...	31 10	90 4	1251 18	3 3	28 17	999 0	363 18	161 8	102 17	0 4	354 16	5 6	0 14	37 17	5 14	0 10	—	—	2 1	8 0	346 13	3794 10
Galboḍa ...	3 10	—	91 10	—	—	34 1	10 0	—	—	—	6 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0 10	—	47 10	193 1
Waṭawala ...	1 0	—	612 0	—	—	144 0	12 0	—	—	—	23 0	—	—	5 0	42 0	—	—	—	—	5 0	90 0	934 0
Hatton ...	53 5	300 15	1803 18	—	60 5	1221 2	1946 10	73 5	33 2	—	648 15	—	—	1 15	3 0	43 0	—	—	—	53 10	8 0	6250 2
Koṭagala ...	7 0	—	209 2	—	—	59 0	322 0	1 0	—	—	179 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	52 14	829 16
Talawakeḷé ...	21 0	15 0	483 1	—	2 0	200 0	1679 12	12 0	—	—	953 0	—	—	—	5 0	—	—	—	—	29 0	35 0	3434 13
Waṭagoḍa ...	15 10	10 0	27 1	—	—	32 10	237 10	—	—	—	29 10	—	—	6 0	55 0	—	—	—	—	—	14 0	427 1
Nánu-oya ...	97 0	—	303 0	—	—	307 0	1287 0	—	—	—	644 14	—	2 0	4 0	—	—	1177 0	—	—	11 0	113 0	3945 14
Moraṭuwa ...	25 11	0 1	1 4	387 14	—	119 19	—	0 8	7 17	0 12	—	4 6	—	—	53 11	242 11	—	—	—	—	6 0	849 14
Pánaḍuré ...	26 0	0 5	—	337 15	—	159 0	—	8 10	1 15	5 10	—	1 15	—	—	9 10	—	—	—	—	—	24 0	574 0
Kalutara South ...	35 0	5 0	60 0	478 0	—	140 2	7 0	—	—	2 0	—	3 0	—	—	7 0	34 14	—	—	50 0	—	—	821 16
Total ...	4396 4	50816 9	6714 4	1237 4	2941 11	37560 0	7925 11	2982 18	1585 1	923 12	4914 8	39 11	753 18	209 17	2452 10	1293 11	1177 0	2506 15	6223 0	4685 7	12947 8	154285 19

12.—Table showing the Number of Miles opened per Annum and the Annual and Average Daily Mileage of Trains from the commencement on October 2, 1865, to December 31, 1887.

Year.	Miles opened per Annum.	Total Miles opened on December 31.	Total Train Mileage.	Average Daily Mileage, including Sundays.
1865	34½	34½	10,839	119
1866	10⅞	45⅜	71,197	195
1867	29⅛	74½	133,846	366
1868	—	74½	242,804	663
1869	—	74½	245,464	672
1870	—	74½	252,305	691
1871	—	74½	251,921	690
1872	—	74½	237,997	650
1873	7¾	82¼	310,261	850
1874	12⅝	94⅞	320,021	876
1875	—	94⅞	383,401	1,050
1876	—	94⅞	421,445	1,151
1877	16⅜	111¼	547,556	1,500
1878	⅝	111⅞	585,406	1,603
1879	9⅜	121⅝	602,087	1,649
1880	17½	139¼	580,869	1,587
1881	—	139¼	636,211	1,743
1882	—	139¼	619,221	1,696
1883	—	139¼	603,080	1,652
1884	28⅝	167⅞	610,198	1,667
1885	12¾	180⅝	626,447	1,722
1886	—	180⅝	632,440	1,733
1887	—	180⅝	640,946	1,756
1887*	—	180⅝	569,730	1,561

* The second line for 1887 has been worked on traffic train mileage only, to compare with 1888.

13.—Particulars of Season Tickets issued during 1887, converted into Monthly Tickets.

Between	And	First Class.	Second Class.	Third Class.
Maradána	Pettah	—	13	55
	Fort	3	18	127
	Slave Island	2	—	17
	Kollupitiya	—	—	24
	Bambalapitiya	2	1	14
	Wellawatta	—	—	—
	Dehiwala	—	—	12
	Mount Lavinia	—	—	12
	Angulána	—	—	—
	Lunáwa	—	—	—
	Moratuwa	—	—	—
	Pánaduré	—	—	68
	Wádduwa	—	—	—
	Kalutara North	—	—	—
	Kalutara South	—	—	8
	Kelaniya	—	—	1
	Mahara	5	—	—
Pettah	Fort	—	4	—
	Slave Island	—	—	36
	Kollupitiya	6	89	196
	Bambalapitiya	13	83	317
	Wellawatta	—	11	210
	Dehiwala	28	4	242
	Mount Lavinia	18	—	88
	Lunáwa	—	3	100
	Moratuwa	—	37	193
	Wádduwa	—	—	3
	Kalutara North	—	—	9
	Kelaniya	—	—	1
	Hunupitiya	—	—	3
Fort	Slave Island	21	—	48
	Kollupitiya	88	179	302
	Bambalapitiya	69	130	460
	Wellawatta	26	30	383
	Dehiwala	30	[illegible]	—
	Mount Lavinia	59	4	14
	Angulána	—	—	3
	Lunáwa	—	—	3
	Pánaduré	—	—	1
	Wádduwa	—	—	1
Carried forward		370	606	2951

Between	And	First Class.	Second Class.	Third Class.
Brought forward		370	606	2951
Fort	Kelaniya	—	—	31
	Hunupitiya	—	—	1
Slave Island	Kollupitiya	—	10	1
	Bambalapitiya	—	2	41
	Wellawatta	—	—	2
	Dehiwala	—	7	17
	Angulána		—	1
	Moratuwa	—	—	12
Kollupitiya	Bambalapitiya	—	17	2
	Wellawatta	—	24	89
	Dehiwala	—	1	25
	Mount Lavinia		—	3
	Lunáwa	—	—	25
	Moratuwa	—	18	24
Bambalapitiya	Dehiwala	—		12
	Mount Lavinia	—	—	1
Wellawatta	Dehiwala	—	—	12
	Angulána		—	8
Dehiwala	Angulána	—	—	4
Mount Lavinia	Moratuwa	—	—	1
Angulána	Moratuwa	—	—	1
Lunáwa	Pánaduré	—	—	33
	Wádduwa		—	6
Moratuwa	Pánaduré	—	9	6
	Kalutara South	—	—	11
Pánaduré	Wádduwa	—	—	10
	Kalutara North	—	—	12
	Kalutara South		—	10
Wádduwa	Kalutara North	—	—	7
	Kalutara South	—	—	19
Colombo	Kelaniya	—	—	102
	Hunupitiya	—	5	15
	Mirigama	—	1	—
Kandy	Gampola	—	—	29
	Náwalapitiya	—	—	3
Gampola	Hatton	—	—	12
	Talawakele	—	—	4
Náwalapitiya	Hatton	—	—	3
		370	700	3546

14.—Particulars of Expenditure on each Section for 1887.

Particulars.		Main Line, including Wharf and Breakwater Lines.	Sea Coast Line.	Mátalé Line.	Náwala-pitiya Line.	Nánu-Oya Line.	All Lines.
Miles open		77¼	27⅛	17⅛	16¾	41⅛	180⅛
Train miles		264,879	119,996	35,449	54,052	95,354	569,730
Receipts	Rs.	1,844,266 47	254,745 69	86,130 23	294,802 32	467,682 92	2,947,627 63
Maintenance of Ways, Works and Bridges	„	171,509 70	79,534 87	22,340 11	40,767 90	53,556 19	367,708 77
Do. per mile of line open	„	2,220 19	2,879 9	1,267 52	2,433 91	1,294 41	2,035 76
Do. per train mile	„	0 65	0 66	0 63	0 76	0 56	0 65
Do. per cent. of earnings ...		*9·3*	*31·2*	*25·9*	*13·9*	*11·5*	*12·5*
Locomotive Power ...	Rs.	305,698 2	55,578 62	40,637 92	62,058 39	117,984 97	581,957 92
Do. per mile of line open	„	3,957 25	2,011 89	2,305 70	3,704 98	2,851 60	3,221 91
Do. per train mile	„	1 16	0 46	1 15	1 15	1 24	1 2
Do. per cent. of earnings ...		*16·6*	*21·8*	*47·2*	*21·1*	*25·2*	*19·7.*
Repairs of Carriages and Wagons	Rs.	51,312 29	25,539 86	6,126 11	10,416 68	15,947 33	109,342 27
Do. per mile of line open	„	664 24	924 52	347 58	621 89	385 43	605 35
Do. per train mile	„	0 19	0 21	0 15	0 19	0 17	0 19
Do. per cent. of earnings ...		*2·8*	*10·0*	*7·1*	*3·5*	*3·4*	*3·7*
Traffic Charges ...	Rs.	139,292 37	44,098 71	14,817 59	29,770 67	42,547 43	270,526 77
Do. per mile of line open	„	1,803 14	1,596 34	840 72	1,777 35	1,028 34	1,497 72
Do. per train mile	„	0 52	0 37	0 42	0 55	0 44	0 47
Do. per cent. of earnings ...		*7·5*	*17·3*	*17·2*	*10·1*	*9·1*	*9·2*
Police Charges ...	Rs.	14,844 60	8,330 96	2,360 88	3,939 69	1,980 56	31,456 69
Do. per mile of line open	„	192 16	301 57	133 95	235 20	47 87	174 16
Do. per train mile	„	0 6	0 7	0 7	0 7	0 2	0 6
Do. per cent. of earnings ...		*0·8*	*3·3*	*2·8*	*1·3*	*0·4*	*1·1*
Telegraph Charges ...	Rs.	15,056 34	5,666 54	3,042 65	2,841 49	7,109 71	33,716 73
Do. per mile of line open	„	194 90	205 12	172 63	169 64	171 83	186 67
Do. per train mile	„	0 6	0 5	0 9	0 5	0 7	0 6
Do. per cent. of earnings ...		*0·8*	*2·3*	*3·5*	*0·9*	*1·5*	*1·1*
General Charges ...	Rs.	25,004 99	8,941 83	5,704 83	5,425 67	13,495 56	58,572 88
Do. per mile of line open	„	323 69	323 69	323 68	323 92	326 18	324 28
Do. per train mile	„	0 9	0 7	0 17	0 10	0 14	0 10
Do. per cent. of earnings ...		*1·3*	*3·5*	*6·6*	*1·8*	*2·9*	*2·0*
Total Working Expenses ...	Rs.	722,718 31	227,691 39	95,030 9	155,220 49	252,621 75	1,453,282 3
Do. per mile of line open	„	9,355 57	8,242 22	5,391 78	9,266 89	6,105 66	8,045 85
Do. per train mile	„	2 73	1 89	2 68	2 87	2 64	2 55
Do. per cent. of earnings ...		*39·1*	*89·4*	*110·3*	*52·6*	*54·0*	*49·3*
New Works	Rs.	12,571 70	148 3	—	—	—	12,719 73
Do. per mile of line open	„	162 74	5 36	—	—	—	70 42
Do. per train mile	„	0 4	—	—	—	—	0 2
Do. per cent. of earnings ...		*0·7*	*0·1*	—	—	—	*0·4*
Total Expenditure ...	Rs.	735,290 1	227,839 42	95,030 9	155,220 49	252,621 75	1,466,001 76
Do. per mile of line open	„	9,518 31	8,247 58	5,391 78	9,266 89	6,105 66	8,116 27
Do. per train mile	„	2 77	1 89	2 68	2 87	2 64	2 57
Do. per cent. of earnings ...		*39·8*	*89·5*	*110·3*	*52·6*	*54·0*	*49·7*

15.—Sectional Earnings for 1887.

Particulars.	Main Line, including Wharf and Breakwater Lines.	Sea Coast Line.	Mátalé Line.	Náwala-pitiya Line.	Nánu-Oya Line.	All Lines.
Capital outstanding on Dec. 31, 1886	—	—	Rs.3,175,643	—	R.11,966,945	R.15,142,588
	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.
Miles open	77¼	27⅛	17⅛	16¾	41⅛	180⅛
Train miles	264,879	119,996	35,449	54,052	95,354	569,730
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Earnings from Coaching traffic ...	422,983 43	243,789 53	55,602 60	98,725 55	141,650 12	962,751 23
Do. per mile of line open ...	5,475 51	8,824 96	3,154 76	5,894 6	3,423 57	5,330 11
Do. per train mile ..	1 60	2 3	1 57	1 82	1 48	1 69
Earnings from Goods traffic ...	1,400,750 37	8,868 42	28,797 98	193,287 40	323,606 39	1,955,310 56
Do. per mile of line open ...	18,132 69	321 3	1,633 92	11,539 55	7,821 30	10,825 24
Do. per train mile .	5 28	0 7	0 81	3 57	3 39	3 43
Live Stock traffic	3,252 30	84 65	720 18	870 32	630 50	5,557 95
Do. per mile of line open	42 10	3 6	40 86	51 96	15 24	30 77
Do. per train mile ...	0 1	—	0 2	0 2	0 1	0 1
Miscellaneous earnings ...	17,280 37	2,003 9	1,009 47	1,919 5	1,795 91	24,007 89
Do. per line of mile open ...	223 69	72 51	57 28	114 57	43 40	132 92
Do. per train mile ...	0 7	0 2	0 3	0 4	0 2	0 4
Total earnings	1,844,266 47	254,745 69	86,130 23	294,802 32	467,682 92	2,947,627 63
Do. per mile of line open ...	23,873 99	9,221 56	4,886 82	17,600 14	11,303 51	16,319 4
Do. per train mile ...	6 96	2 12	2 43	5 45	4 90	5 17
Expenditure including New works ...	735,290 1	227,839 42	95,030 9	155,220 49	252,621 75	1,466,001 76
Profits on working	1,108,976 46	26,906 27	loss 8,899 86	139,581 83	215,061 17	1,481,625 87
Profits on working = per cent. on capital outstanding	—	—	Loss	—	1·8	9·78
Interest paid on capital outstanding ...	—	—	151,853 0	—	552,044 0	703,897 0
Net profits	1,108,976 46	26,906 27	—160,752 86	139,581 83	—336,982 83	777,728 87
Contribution to sinking fund ...	—	—	37,960 0	—	138,038 0	175,998 0
Amount available for Colonial purposes	1,108,976 46	26,906 27	—198,712 86	139,581 83	—475,020 83	601,730 87

20.—Receipts from all Sources from 1865 to 1887.

Year.	Average Length of Line open.	Length of Line on December 31.	No. of Passengers.	No. of Season Ticket Holders.	Tonnage of Goods.	Earnings from Coaching Traffic.	Earnings from Goods Traffic.	Earnings from Live Stock Traffic.	Miscellaneous Receipts.	Total Earnings.	Working Expenses.	Earnings per Mile of Line open.	Working Expenses per Mile of Line open.	Train Miles.	Earnings per Train Mile.	Working Expenses per Train Mile.	Percentage of Workings Expense to Gross Receipts.	Net Earnings.
	Miles.	Miles.	No.	No.	Tons.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Miles.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Per cent.	Rs.
1865 ...	34½	34½	16,443	—	—	25,632	—	—	1,471	27,103	53,899	786	1,562	10,839	2 50	4 97	Loss	— 26,796
1866 ...	36⅜	45⅜	124,096	—	12,789	165,240	66,943	442	7,480	240,105	262,952	6,601	7,229	71,197	3 37	3 69	Loss	— 22,847
1867 ...	57½	74½	156,167	—	54,850	257,256	547,009	769	10,569	815,603	479,338	14,167	8,336	133,846	6 9	3 58	58·7	336,265
1868 ...	74½	74½	180,984	—	116,176	371,694	1,251,779	2,013	11,185	1,636,671	746,860	21,969	10,025	242,804	6 74	3 7	45·6	889,811
1869 ...	74½	74½	181,720	—	134,369	367,575	1,414,814	3,062	24,199	1,809,650	725,003	24,291	9,732	245,464	7 37	2 96	40·0	1,084,647
1870 ...	74½	74½	202,620	—	156,205	413,765	1,626,193	4,072	22,373	2,066,403	735,468	27,737	9,872	252,305	8 19	2 91	35·5	1,330,935
1871 ...	74½	74½	211,056	—	149,033	414,041	1,556,599	4,431	20,980	1,996,051	742,717	26,793	9,969	251,921	7 92	2 95	37·2	1,253,334
1872 ...	74½	74½	328,320	—	138,429	405,735	1,435,086	4,799	21,874	1,867,494	738,082	25,067	9,907	237,997	7 84	3 10	39·5	1,129,412
1873 ...	82	82¼	579,119	—	171,193	574,288	1,779,476	5,861	24,880	2,384,505	889,855	29,079	10,852	310,261	7 68	2 86	37·3	1,494,650
1874 ...	84¾	95	708,376	—	167,975	633,491	1,754,205	6,340	31,524	2,425,560	886,849	28,620	10,464	320,021	7 58	2 77	36·6	1,538,711
1875 ...	95	95	858,094	—	212,229	739,345	2,107,071	9,095	40,713	2,896,224	982,831	30,487	10,346	383,401	7 55	2 56	33·9	1,913,393
1876 ...	95	95	879,308	—	258,984	807,714	2,140,293	11,071	33,650	2,992,728	1,010,566	31,502	10,637	421,445	7 10	2 39	33·7	1,982,162
1877 ...	106¼	111¼	1,562,244	—	298,856	972,628	2,598,453	14,279	56,580	3,641,940	1,266,215	34,299	11,945	547,556	6 65	2 31	34·8	2,375,725
1878 ...	111⅜	111¾	2,053,816	—	282,930	980,288	2,424,379	14,128	31,670	3,450,465	1,354,021	30,911	12,130	585,406	5 89	2 31	39·2	2,096,444
1879 ...	119⅞	121⅝	2,230,522	508	253,427	1,026,895	2,291,450	9,314	21,850	3,349,509	1,424,461	27,942	11,883	602,087	5 56	2 36	42·5	1,925,048
1880 ...	126	139¼	2,231,226	835	264,463	985,287	1,940,390	7,281	79,433	3,012,391	1,367,597	23,908	10,854	580,869	5 18	2 35	45·4	1,644,794
1881 ...	139¼	139¼	2,166,930	1,393	317,490	956,589	1,885,798	7,175	33,143	2,882,705	1,357,893	20,702	9,751	636,211	4 53	2 13	47·1	1,524,812
1882 ...	139¼	139¼	2,129,621	1,913	292,599	925,157	1,670,023	6,314	31,134	2,632,628	1,361,115	18,904	9,775	619,221	4 25	2 20	51·7	1,271,513
1883 ...	139¼	139¼	2,091,484	2,201	237,652	879,456	1,568,692	6,225	22,007	2,476,380	1,276,800	17,784	9,169	603,080	4 11	2 11	51·5	1,199,580
1884 ...	152¼	167⅞	2,111,334	2,474	187,360	916,878	1,592,496	5,222	29,989	2,544,585	1,359,102	16,713	8,927	610,198	4 17	2 22	53·4	1,185,483
1885 ...	175⅝	180⅝	1,846,427	2,586	160,316	873,025	1,695,646	4,707	32,280	2,605,658	1,467,699	14,426	8,358	626,447	4 16	2 34	56·3	1,137,959
1886 ...	180⅝	180⅝	1,818,509	2,748	156,434	869,463	1,790,121	4,863	23,428	2,687,875	1,451,716	14,881	8,037	632,440	4 25	2 29	54·0	1,236,159
1887 ...	180⅝	180⅝	1,966,280	3,154	162,295	962,751	1,955,311	5,558	24,008	2,947,628	1,466,002	16,319	8,116	640,946	4 60	2 29	49·7	1,481,627
1887* ...	180⅝	180⅝	1,966,280	3,154	162,295	962,751	1,955,311	5,558	24,008	2,947,628	1,466,002	16,319	8,116	569,730	5 17	2 57	49·7	1,481,627

* The second line for 1887 has been worked on traffic train mileage only, to compare with 1888.

REPORT OF THE ENGINEER OF WAY AND WORKS FOR 1887.

THE length of opened line is 180 miles and 50 chains, sidings not included.

The gross amount of working expenses of this Department, which includes maintenance of permanent way, works, and buildings, was for this year Rs. 367,667·77, as against Rs. 373,696·21 in the previous year.

The permanent way and works were maintained in efficient working order during 1887.

The expenditure on the maintenance of Main line, excluding the Wharf line, shows a decrease of Rs. 20,655·73, and that on the Nánu-oya line of Rs. 13,616·74, as compared with that of the previous year.

The expenditure on the Kalutara line shows an increase of Rs. 16,296·75, and that on the Náwalapiṭiya and Mátalé lines of Rs. 13,930·21 and Rs. 2,626·31, respectively.

The increase on the Kalutara and Náwalapiṭiya lines was owing to heavy renewals of permanent way. The increase on the Mátalé line was due to landslips.

There was an increase in expenditure on stations and buildings, principally due to heavy repairs to Colombo and Kandy passenger stations, Colombo goods sheds, shifting water columns at Kaḍugannáwa, &c.

In reviewing the results of the year's working, it is satisfactory to find that it compares most favourably with the working of any previous year; the cost per train mile and per mile open being the lowest yet reached.

I would also draw attention to the fact, that although the length of line now maintained is more than double the mileage maintained in 1878 (ten years ago), the total expenses of this Department are now less than they were in 1878.

Renewals of Permanent Way.

Table 6 gives the quantities of rails and sleepers used in each year during the past ten years, and shows that the quantities used in 1887 are above the average, and that the saving has not been effected by "starving" the road of materials.

The renewals of rails and sleepers have been chiefly confined to the "Main line," Náwalapiṭiya and Seaside branches, which had originally been laid with iron rails.

The Mátalé and Nánu-oya lines having been laid with steel when constructed, have so far required few renewals; but the "wear and tear" on the curves of these branches is very considerable, especially on the sharp curves of the Nánu-oya, which already show unmistakable signs of "short life"; the "wear and tear" on the straights and flatter curves being very much less, will, however, help to raise the average life, though it cannot be expected to compare favourably with the lives of steel rails in the lines below Náwalapiṭiya.

The iron rails on the Kalutara branch, where near the sea and exposed to the influence of the sea air, have suffered very much from corrosion, resulting in the gradual reduction of their section. The renewals on this portion of the line have been heavier than usual, which accounts for the cost per mile being greater than on any other branch.

During this year the line has been comparatively free from "slips" and "washaways," and the interruption to traffic very slight; the greatest detention being only a few hours.

The following new works have been carried out during the year:—

Building bridge at 12¼ mile.
Extending siding at Mahara.
Crossing station at Alagalla.
Extending siding at Pettah.

The following works, sanctioned under the vote for the Nánu-oya Construction Account, were completed during the year:—

Building bungalows for Traffic and Locomotive Staff on the Nánu-oya line.
Building Foreman Platelayer's house at Nánu-oya.
Building two Platelaying Overseers' houses—one at Náwalapiṭiya and one at Koṭagala.
Building lines for Platelaying Coolies on the Nánu-oya line.
Converting Engineer's Office at Náwalapiṭiya to a dwelling-house.
Removing furniture of Nánu-oya Extension Office to Colombo.

The following expenditure was incurred during the year on special estimates sanctioned on account of the "Blackwater slip," and brought to account under several heads of work against the vote for the Nánu-oya Railway Construction:—

	To end of 1886.		In 1887.		Total.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Clearing the Blackwater slip, building lines for coolies, and providing accommodations for the working staff, &c., at Blackwater ...	48,013	67	24,963	3	72,976	70*
Transferring goods	4,324	59	637	86	4,962	45
Working and maintenance of the wire tramway	8,475	42	3,694	63	12,170	5
Mr. Spooner's experiment ...	1,149	29	91	19	1,240	48
Total ...	61,962	97	29,386	71	91,349	68

An expenditure of Rs. 596·56 was incurred at the latter end of the year on a special vote on account of surveying and levelling, &c., the Bentoṭa Railway Extension.

Colombo, April 27, 1888.

W. CANTRELL,
Engineer of Way and Works.

* Credit has been taken for the sum of Rs. 7,923·33, value of tools, &c., on hand, after the work had been completed.

1.—Particulars of Culverts and Flood Openings constructed during 1887.

At M.	At C.	Number.	Number of Openings.	Size of Openings. ft.	Size of Openings. in.	Depth of Waterway. ft.	Depth of Waterway. in.	Remarks.
12	40	1	3	25	0	4	0	This was a screw pile bridge.

2.—Particulars of Culverts and Flood Openings renewed during 1887.

Description.	At Miles.	At Chains.	Number.	Number of Openings.	Size of Openings. ft.	Size of Openings. in.	Remarks.
Main Line.							
Pile bridge ...	1	69	1	6	25	0	Bracing up piles and putting on corbels
Girder bridge ...	3	38	1	1	25	0	Pointing brickwork
Do. ...	4	22	1	2	25	0	Deepening waterway
Do. ...	5	49	1	1	25	0	Pointing brickwork
Do. ...	5	60	1	2	25	0	Repairing wing walls, &c.
Do. ...	6	12	1	1	25	0	Do.
Barrel drain ...	6	54	1	1	3	0*	Relaying with bricks, &c.
Girder bridge ...	14	17	1	1	25	0	Pointing brickwork
Pile bridge ...	15	47	1	5	25	0	Strengthening piles by placing rubble stone around
Girder bridge ...	16	48	1	3	25	0	Repairs to brickwork
Do. ...	21	60	1	1	25	0	Do.
Culvert ...	25	59	1	1	2	0†	Pointing, &c.
Arch culvert ...	30	8	1	1	3	4	Repairs to brickwork
Girder bridge ...	31	15	1	1	25	0	Repairing wing walls, &c.
Pile bridge ...	33	67	1	1	25	0	Bracing up piles and putting on corbels
Culvert ...	41	75	1	1	2	6	Pointing brickwork
Do. ...	42	25	1	1	2	0	Do.
Girder bridge ...	43	45	1	1	52	0	Repairs to longitudinal timbers
Arch culvert ...	43	64	1	1	3	2	Repairs to brickwork
Culvert ...	56	70	1	1	7	0	Repairs to abutments
Girder bridge ...	66	64	1	1	25	0	Tarring girders and pointing
No. 1 Section.—Kalutara to Maradána Junction.							
Wooden bridge ...	0	0	1	2	30	0	—
Do. ...	0	0	1	2	40	0	—
Cylinder bridge ...	25	30	1	6	100	0	—
No. 6 Section.—Péradeniya to Náwalapitiya.							
Girder bridge ...	0	18	1	1	66	0	Pointing
Culvert ...	1	38	1	1	3	0	Do.
Do. ...	2	29	1	1	2	0	Do.
Do. ...	2	70	1	1	3	0	Do.
Girder bridge ...	3	8	1	1	25	0	Repairs to tie rods and tarring
Culvert ...	15	16	1	1	3	0	Pointing
Arch culvert ...	15	47	1	1	6¼	0	Repairs to brickwork
No. 7 Section.—Kandy to Mátalé.							
Arch culvert ...	—	38	1	1	2	0	Repairs to brickwork
Rail opening ...	1	10	1	1	2	0	Do. and pointing
Double arch culvert ...	3	9	1	2	2	0	Do.
Girder bridge ...	3	26	1	6	125	0	Repairs to longitudinal timbers, &c.
Girder opening ...	9	8	1	1	5	9	Pointing and repairs to rockwork
Arch culvert	13	50	1	1	2	0	Repairs to brickwork
Girder bridge ...	16	76	1	1	18	0	Do.
Arch culvert ...	17	35	1	1	5	9	Do.
Cross drain ...	17	36	1	1	0	6	Do.
Arch culvert ...	17	38	1	1	2	0	Do.
No. 8 Section.—Náwalapitiya to Nánu-oya.							
Girder bridge ...	18	32	1	1	60	0	Repairs to longitudinal timbers
Do. ...	18	43	1	1	40	0	Repairs to tie rods, and tarring
Culvert ..	19	46	1	1	6	0	Pointing
Open culvert ...	20	66	1	1	6	0	Do.
Girder bridge ..	22	37	1	1	60	0	Repairs to longitudinal timbers
Do. ...	21	46	1	1	20	0	Repairs to tie rods longitudinal timbers
Open culverts ...	39	47	1	1	6	0	Repairs to masonry work
Girder bridge ...	34	51	1	1	12	0	Do. do.

* Diameter. † Square.

3.—Particulars of Sidings laid during 1887.

At	Length in feet.	Remarks.
Mahara Station yard ...	357 lineal ...	Laid with old iron rails and new sleepers and fastenings
Alagalla Telegraph Station ...	1,050 do. ...	Laid with new steel rails
Pettah Station yard ...	42 do. ...	Do.

4.—Particulars of Permanent Way relaid during 1887.

Sections.	Between Miles.	Between Chains.		Miles.	Chains.	Length in feet.	Class of Rails used.
No. 1.—Kalutara to Maradána ...	2	7	..	4	24	22,764	21 ft. steel rails
	7	71	.	9	17		
	13	27	...	14	8		
No. 2.—Colombo to Rambukkana ...	—	70		1	28	14,721	Do.
	8	4	...	8	24		
	12	20	..	12	56		
	18	8	.	18	56		
	26	8	..	26	66		
	34	49	.	34	0		
No. 3.—Rambukkana to Kaḍugannáwa ...	59	43	...	59	49	1,669	Do.
	62	—	..	62	11		
	62	30		62	34		
	62	40	.	62	55		
	62	64	...	62	68		
	64	30	...	64	43		
No. 4.—Kaḍugannáwa to Pérádeniya ...	66	10	...	66	25	3,759	Do.
	66	40	...	66	55		
	67	—	...	67	20		
	68	—	...	68	65		
No. 6.—Pérádeniya to Náwalapiṭiya ...	3	45	...	4	25	5,901	Do.
	6	35	...	6	45		
	9	70	...	10	—		
	10	54	...	10	62		
	10	73	...	11	—		
	11	4	...	11	14		
	11	45	...	11	58		
	13	10	...	13	25		
No. 9.—Wharf Line	Fort to Wharf					1,050	Do.

5.—Particulars of Sleepers used for Renewals during 1887.

Section	Class of Sleepers.	Number.
No. 1.—Kalutara to Maradána Junction	English ...	3,770
	Native ...	100
,, 2.—Colombo to Rambukkana ...	English ...	6,370
	Native ...	880
,, 3.—Rambukkana to Kaḍugannáwa	English ...	2,460
	Native ...	—
,, 4.—Kaḍugannáwa to Pérádeniya ...	English ...	1,083
	Native ...	—
,, 5.—Pérádeniya to Kandy ...	English ...	100
	Native ...	—
,, 6. Pérádeniya to Náwalapiṭiya ...	English ...	2,910
	Native ...	111
,, 7.—Kandy to Mátalé ...	English ...	880
	Native ...	684
,, 8.—Náwalapiṭiya to Nánu-oya ...	English ...	164
	Native ...	193
,, 9. Fort to Wharf	English ...	100
	Native ...	—
,, 10.—Mahara Quarry to Mahara Point	English ...	50
	Native ...	—
	English ...	17,887
	Native ...	1,968
	Total ...	19,855

6.—Quantities of Rails and Sleepers used during the past Ten Years (1878 to 1887) for Maintenance of Way and Works.

Year.	Steel Rails. Tons.	Sleepers. Number.	Miles Open.	Miles of Rails.	Miles of Sleepers.
1878	1,348	15,065	112	12	7½
1879	860	9,676	121¾	7½	5
1880	884	23,417	139¼	7¾	11¾
1881	954	16,430	139¼	8¼	8¼
1882	763	22,889	139¼	6¾	11½
1883	414	30,481	139¼	3¾	15¼
1884	624	24,530	168	5½	12¼
1885	993	21,094	180¼	8¾	10½
1886	902	21,710	180¼	8	10¾
1887	1,111	19,855	180⅝	9¾	10
	8,853 = 78 miles *	205,147 = 102½ miles †			

* Average of 7·8 miles per annum, or 63 per cent. on 122 miles.
† Average of 10¼ miles per annum, or 84 per cent. on 122 miles.

7.—Quantity of Ballast used during 1887.

Section.	Class of Ballast.	Cubic yards.	Remarks.
No. 1.—Kalutara to Maradána	Stone quarry chips	508	From Mahara Quarry Convict Establishment
Do.	Sand	576	From Sea beach
„ 2.—Colombo to Rambukkana	Stone quarry chips	1,419	From Mahara Quarry Convict Establishment
„ 3.—Rambukkana to Kaḍugannáwa	Quartz	160	By day labour
„ 4.—Kaḍugannáwa to Pérádeniya	Quartz	165	Supplied by Native Contractor

8.—List of Machinery in Permanent Way Workshop on December 31, 1887, and Condition.

Description.	Station and Shop.	Remarks.
No. 1 Stationary Engine, with sawing and drilling machines combined	Colombo Workshop	An old Engine, frequently undergoing repairs.

9.—Number of Men engaged per Mile of Single Line in Maintenance of the Permanent Way, 1887.

Section.	Men per mile.
No. 1—Kalutara to Maradána Junction	3
„ 2—Colombo to Rambukkana	4
„ 3—Rambukkana to Kaḍugannáwa	4
„ 4—Kaḍugannáwa to Pérádeniya	4
„ 5—Pérdeniya to Kandy	4
„ 6—Pérádeniya to Náwalapitiya	4
„ 7—Kandy to Mátalé	4
„ 8—Náwalapitiya to Nánu-oya	4
„ 9—Fort to Wharf	3
„ 10—Mahara Quarry to Mahara Point	3

REPORT OF THE LOCOMOTIVE ENGINEER FOR 1887.

THE engines, tenders, carriages, wagons, stationary engines and boilers, machinery and tools, belonging to the Locomotive Department of the Ceylon Government Railway, have been maintained in efficient working order during the year 1887.

The following comparative statements give particulars of the work done by engines, consumption of fuel, &c. :—

1886.		1887.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Engine Mileage.			
562,161	Traffic, with trains	569,730	7,569	—
11,672	Service, with trains	9,234	—	2,438
56,706	Assisting	71,707	15,001	—
7,086	Light	5,916	—	1,170
34,912	Shunting	36,432	1,520	—
672,537	Total engine miles	693,019	20,482	—
	Train Mileage.			
562,161	Traffic	569,730	7,569	—
11,672	Service	9,234	—	2,438
573,833	Total train miles	578,964	5,131	—
	Vehicle Mileage.			
Not recorded separately	Passenger	3,927,229	—	—
	Goods	4,848,070	—	—
8,242,834	Total vehicle miles	8,775,299	532,465	—
	Consumption of Fuel.			
	Coal.			
3,921 tons	Total used	4,314 tons	393	—
13·06 lb.	Per engine mile	13·94 lb.	0·88	—
15·31 lb.	Per train mile	16·69 lb.	1·38	—
	Wood.			
66,447¼ cub. yds.	Total used	60,303½ c. yds.	—	6,143¾
0·098 lb.	Per engine mile	0·087 lb.	—	0·011
0·115 lb.	Per train mile	0·104 lb.	—	0·011
	Coal and Wood (reduced to Coal Equivalent).			
9,458¼ tons	Total used	9,339 tons	—	119¼ tons
31·50 lb.	Per engine mile	30·19 lb.	—	1·31 lb.
36·92 lb.	Per train mile	36·13 lb.	—	0·79 lb.

The total expenditure of the Locomotive Department for 1887 is less than for 1886 by Rs. 14,901, although the 1887 traffic has required 20,482 engine miles in excess of that required for the 1886 traffic.

It will be noticed that the increase in train mileage is only about one-fourth that of engine mileage, and the cause of this is the fact that on the section of railway between Náwalapiṭiya and Nánu-oya (41 miles nearly) it has been found more convenient to work double engine loads than to increase the number of trains.

In order, therefore, to compare the cost of locomotive working on a line, which in busy times may have a large proportion of its train mileage worked with two engines, rather than an increase made to that mileage, it is evident that a truer comparison can be obtained on the basis of an engine mileage than of a train mileage.

If the locomotive working for 1886 is compared with that for 1887 on a train mile basis (traffic and service), the latter year shows an improvement of 0·86c. per train mile; but if the comparison be made on an engine mileage basis, the improvement works out at 2·52c. per mile; and, as before stated, the latter figure is a truer measure of the improvement so far as the working and maintenance of locomotives are concerned.

The consumption of fuel shows an improvement, whether taken on the engine or train mileage.

With regard to the cost of maintenance of carriages and wagons, there is a decrease of 1·86c. per train mile.

With regard to maintenance of rolling stock, it would seem a more correct method to base it on a vehicle mileage basis than a train mileage basis, for it is clear that a train of twenty vehicles involves more wear and tear to rolling stock than one of ten vehicles, although in the present case the comparison by either method gives almost the same amount of improvement. Thus, by train mileage, 1·86c. per mile; by vehicle mileage, 1·98c. per 1,000 miles.

The total decrease of expenditure in the Locomotive Department comes out at 2·71c. per train mile.

The following comparative statements give in detail the more important items of the stores used :—

1886. No.	1886. Amount. Rs.	c.		*Locomotive Repairs.*	1887. No.	1887. Amount. Rs.	c.
4	32,604	51		Boilers	2	13,627	61
1	1,698	60		Copper firebox	—	—	
84	4,806	0		Engine tyres	162	10,698	0
1	734	62		Crank axles	1	734	62
2	171	82		Straight axles	4	343	64
1	947	62		Bogie frames	—	—	
Pairs.					Pairs.		
2	2,045	0		Inside cylinders	2	2,045	0
1	782	61		Outside cylinders	—	—	
cwt. qr. lb.					cwt. qr. lb.		
26 0 22	1,431	85		Babits metal	13 0 4	829	75
—	2,418	29		Castings	—	941	11
Tons.					Tons. cwt.		
168	3,781	50		Coke	31 9	1,270	0
—	37,044	92		Other stores and materials	—	40,317	68
	88,467	34			Total	70,807	41
No.				*Carriage and Wagon Repairs.*	No.		
256	6,048	14		Tyres	403	12,020	3
6,179	14,597	39		Teak, cubic feet	3,815	8,885	90
—	—			Wagon axles	—	—	
36	630	36		Buffer springs	52	530	92
72	735	12		Bearing springs	40	392	0
372	1,517	76		Cast iron brake-blocks	958	4,138	64
—	9,345	32		Paint, oil, &c.	—	6,345	47
—	686	14		Canvas	—	862	16
—	1,245	54		Steel and iron	—	578	35
—	1,780	48		Wooden brake-blocks	—	1,145	32
—	662	60		Hora and jakwood planks	—	678	85
—	7,158	5		Other stores and materials	—	7,405	35
	44,406	90			Total	42,982	99

Repairs to Locomotives.

In addition to work done for running shed repairs, the number of engines passed through the Colombo shop, and thoroughly repaired, compares as follows :—17 in 1886 and 8 in 1887.

Repairs to four engines, commenced in 1885, were completed in 1888, and repairs to two engines, commenced in 1886, were completed in 1887.

The number of engines painted during 1886 and 1887 compares as follows :—15 in 1886 and 16 in 1887.

Repairs to Carriages and Wagons.

In addition to numerous small repairs to carriages and wagons, the rebuilds stated in the following comparative return have been executed for the purpose of maintaining the stock in efficient working order :—

1886.		1887.	
Four-wheeled covered goods wagons	27	Four-wheeled covered goods wagons	9
Do. open do.	3	Do. low-sided do.	2
Do. ballast do.	1	Do. timber truck do.	1
Do. goods brake vans	2	Do. carriage truck do.	1
Total	33	Total	13

The following alterations in rolling stock have been charged against the vote for repairs and renewals :—

Covered goods (shortening wheel base)	20
Covered goods	30
High-sided	2
Cattle wagon	1
Carriage truck	1
Cattle wagons (one converted to tea wagon)	2
Total ...	56

This shortening of wheel base was carried out with the view of rendering the stock more suitable to the sharp curves on the railway between Náwalapiṭiya and Nánu-oya.

Painting Work.

The painting work during 1886 and 1887 compares as follows :—

1886.		
Four-wheeled	coaches ...	57
Do.	passenger guards' vans	10
Do.	horse boxes ...	4
Do.	covered wagons ...	153
Do.	open ...	32
Do.	cattle ...	3
Do.	carriage truck ...	1
Do.	ballast wagons ...	3
	Total ...	263

1887.	
Four-wheeled vehicles ...	200
Bogie . do. ...	23
Roofs painted ...	259
Total ...	482

Workshops.

No material improvement to workshop accommodation has been carried out during 1887.

New Work done on account of the Nánu-oya Railway.

The construction of a saloon coach has been practically completed during 1887. The only remaining work to be done to it is to attach the following small fittings, not as yet to hand from England :—four handrails to be put in position, two lavatories to be fitted with ware basins.

R. F. TREVITHICK,
Locomotive Engineer.

Colombo, March 20, 1888.

1.—List of Machinery in Workshops.

No. of Machine on Store List.	Description.	Condition on December 31, 1887.
	Machinery in Fitting Shop.	
—	One pair horizontal engine cylinder, 12 in. diameter, stroke 18 in., for driving workshop machinery ...	In fair working order
—	One old locomotive boiler, supplying steam for above engine	do.
1	Double chuck wheel lathe chucks, 5.6 in. diameter ..	In good order
2	. Do. with 4.6 in. diameter chucks ...	do.
3	Screw-cutting gap lathe, 11 in. centres; gap opens 18 in., takes in 3 ft. diameter	In fair working order
4	Screw-cutting lathe, 10 in. centres, 18 ft. bed ...	do.
5	Do. 7 in. centres, 9 ft. bed ...	In good order
6	Hand lathe, 7 in. centre, 9 ft. bed	In fair working order
7	Planing machine, planes 16 ft. long, 4 ft. wide, 3 ft. high	do.
8	Planing machine, will plane 8 ft. long, 3 ft. wide, 3 ft. high	In good order
9	Drilling machine, movable table, drills to 16 in. deep	In fair working order
10	Drilling machine	do.
11	Shaping machine, self-feeding, stroke 17 in., bed 7 ft. long	In good order
12	Shaping machine, 4½ stroke, bed 4 ft. long ...	In fair working order
13	Screwing and tapping machine, screws and taps from ⅛ up to 1½ diameter, travels 8 in. in length...	do.
14	Stotting machine, stroke 18 in., table revolves, travels laterally horizontally by self-acting gear ...	In good order
15	Shears, 22 from knife and up to ¾ in. thick ...	do.
16	Screw-cutting lathe, 24 in. centres, 23 ft. bed, takes in up to 3.9½ diameter	do.
17	Screw-cutting lathe, 6 in. centres, 9 ft. bed ...	do.
18	Shaping machine, 14 in. stroke 5.6 bed ...	In fair working order
19	Screw-cutting lathe, 9¼ centre, 16 ft. 6 in. bed ...	do.
20	Wheel lathe, 6.6 chuck, chucks disconnect and run separately	In good order
21	Shearing and punching machine, cuts ¼ thick plate, 8 in. from edge	Requires to be thoroughly overhauled—not a very useful machine
22	Small bench drilling machine	Requires a thorough overhaul

No. of Machine on Store List.	Description.	Condition on December 31, 1887.
23	Screw-cutting lathe, 6 in. centres, 9.6 bed ...	In good order
24	Screw-cutting gap lathe, 11½ in. centre, bed 15·0, gap open 24, takes in. 3.4 diameter ...	do.
25	Small hand lathe, 6 in. centres, 5 ft. 6 in. bed ...	In fair working order
26	Do. 6 in. centre, 5 ft. 6 in bed ...	In good order
27	Do. 6½ in. centres, 6 ft. bed ...	do.
28	Facing and boring lathe chuck, 3 ft. 6 in. diameter ...	do.
29	Drilling machine, 12 deep, 2.0 table ...	do.
30	Wheel lathe, 4.6 diameter chucks, self-acting feed ...	In fair working order
31	Facing and boring machine (lathe) chuck, 3 ft. 4 in. diameter	In good order
32	Shaping machine, stroke 18 in., 8 ft. bed ...	do.
33	Radial arm drilling machine, drill travels on arm 3 ft., radius 5 ft.	do.
34	Shaping machine, 18 in. stroke, 8 ft. length of bed, duplicate of No. 32	do.
35	Screw-cutting lathe, 6½ centres, 9.9 bed ...	do.
36	Drilling machine, to drill holes in tyres between spokes of wheel	Requires to be overhauled
—	One set of plate rolls	In good order
—	Wheel press	do.
—	Three grindstones and troughs, complete ...	In good working order
	Machinery in Blacksmiths' Shop.	
	Portable engine for driving circular saw, cylinder 7¾ diameter 12 in.	A very old engine, and not very serviceable
	Old locomotive boiler for supplying steam to steam hammers, and portable engine for driving circular saw	In good order
	Circular saw for cutting iron, largest diameter of saw 2 ft. 8 in.	do.
	Double-acting 10-cwt. steam hammer, Massey's patent	do.
	6-cwt. steam hammer, R. Wilson's patent ...	In fair order
	Tangye's patent noiseless fan	In good order, driven by machine shop engine
	Bolt and nut shaping machine	Has never been put together
	Machinery in Carriage and Wagon Repairing Shop.	
	Portable engine for driving	In good order
	Machinery in shop, cylinder 9 in. by 16 in. diameter, stroke 12 in., H. P. 8	do.
	Circular saw, largest diameter of saw 24 in. ...	do.
	Saw sharpening machine	do.
	Emery grinding stone with automatic water supply	do.
	Hand wood turning lathe with arrangement for saw to be fixed for grooving, &c.	This is a lathe made up of various odd pieces, and although very useful, hardly deserves to come under the head of machinery
	Mortising machine and drill for woodwork ...	Fair order
	Bench drilling machine	Requires overhauling
	Log frame saw with combined engine, complete, takes in log 24 in. by 24 in.	Good order
	Old locomotive boiler for driving above ...	do.
	Paint grinding mill (hand)	In working order
	Machinery in Colombo Running Shed.	
	Hand drilling machine	Requires repairs
	Sheer legs	Good
	Coal crane	Good working order
	Pumping engine	New boiler and engine in good order
	Do.	—
	Grindstone	—
	Machinery in Kadugannáwa Running Shed.	
	Screw-cutting lathe	Fair order
	Hand drilling machine	do.
	Travelling crane and wagon	Good order
	Coal crane	do.
	Pumping engine	do.
	Grindstone	do.
	Machinery in Kandy Running Shed.	
	Hand lathe	Good order
	Hand drilling machine	Fair working order
	Travelling crane and wagon	do.
	Coal crane	do.
	Grindstone	do.
	Machinery in Náwalapitiya Running Shed.	
	Coal crane	—

2.—List of Engines, Pumps, &c., for supplying Water.

No.	Place.	Description.	Remarks.
1	Kalutara South ...	Hand pump ...	Used daily
1	Kalutara North ...	do. ...	Used when the Kalutara South is out of order
1	Pánaduré ...	do. ...	Very seldom used
2	Moraṭuwa ...	do. ...	One for Up and one for Down journey
1	Mount Lavinia ..	do. ...	Used for Traffic Department
1	Colombo ...	Engine and pump ...	Not used now
2	Do. ...	Tanks ...	Supplied from reservoir
1	Veyangoḍa ...	Engine and pump ...	Used daily
1	Polgahawela ...	Hand pump ...	—
1	Rambukkana ...	Engine and pump ...	—
2	Kaḍugannáwa ...	Tanks ...	Tanks supplied from two reservoirs
1	Kandy ...	do. ...	Supplied by one reservoir
1	Mátalé ...	do. ...	do.
2	Náwalapiṭiya ...	do. ...	Supplied from reservoir; the large tank only used
1	Galboḍa ...	do. ...	Supplied from reservoir
1	Waṭawala ...	do. ...	do.
1	Hatton ...	Hand pump ...	Supplied from tank and column
1	Waṭagoḍa ...	do. ...	do.
1	Nánn-oya ...	do. ...	Supplies tank

For Table 3 see next page.

4.—Return of Rolling Stock on December 31, 1887.

Locomotives.

Six-wheeled coupled bogie engines	10
Six-wheeled coupled engines	6
Four-wheeled coupled six feet engines ...	6*
Do. five feet engines ...	26
Do. tank engines ...	8
Shunting engines	2
Total ...	58

Coaching Four-wheeled Stock.

State carriage	1
Saloon	4
First class	9
First and second class composite ...	6
Second class	13
Third class	70
Guards' van	22
Horse boxes, Main line	10
Do. Nánu-oya line	4
Carriage trucks, Main line	5
Do. Nánu-oya line ...	—
Do. covered, Main line ...	2
Do. covered, Nánu-oya line ...	4
Total ...	150

Coaching Bogie Stock.

Saloon	1
State carriage	1
Refreshment car	2
First and second class composite ...	9
Third class	3
Third class and van composite ...	9
Second, third, and brake van composite ...	2
Total ...	27
Eight-wheeled, third class	1

Goods Stock, Four-wheeled.

Covered wagon	Main line	169
	Nánu-oya line ...	118
High-sided open	Main line	83
	Nánu-oya line ...	5
Low-sided open	Main line ...	37
	Nánu-oya	3
Cattle trucks	Main line	9
	Nánu-oya line ...	7
Gunpowder vans	Main line	2
	Nánu-oya line ...	2
Lime wagon	Main line	12
	Nánu-oya line ...	4
Tea leaf truck	Main line	0
	Nánu-oya line ..	1
Swivel timber truck	Main line	6
	Nánu-oya line ...	2
Goods vans	Main line	18
	Nánu-oya line ...	0
Total ...		478

Bogie Stock Goods.

Covered wagons	28
Low-sided	2
Goods and brake van composite ...	6
Cattle trucks	2
Total ...	38

Service Stock.

Travelling crane	5
Ballast wagons	—
P. W. D. wagons	—
Crane wagons	3
Total ...	8

* Passenger engines.

3.—List and Condition of Locomotive Engines and Tenders on December 31, 1887.

Stock No.	Maker's Name.	Maker's No.	Class.	Description.	Cylinders. Position.	Cylinders. Diameter.	Cylinders. Length of Stroke.	No. of Wheels on Engine.	Coupled or Single Wheels	Diameter of Wheels. Leading.	Diameter of Wheels. Driving.	Diameter of Wheels. Trailling	Commenced to Run.	Condition.
						in.	in.			ft. in.	ft. in.	ft. in.		
1	R. Stephenson & Co. ...	1,263	Mixed trains ...	Bogie engine with tender	Inside	16	22	8	Four wheels coupled	3 0	5 0	5 0	April 1864	In very good order
2	Do. ...	1,264	do. ...		do.	16	22	8		3 0	5 0	5 0	do.	do.
3	Do. ...	1,265	do. ...		do.	16	22	8		3 0	5 0	5 0	July 1865	do.
4	Do. ...	1,266	do. ...		do.	16	22	8		3 0	5 0	5 0	April 1866	Under repair
5	Do. ...	1,267	do. ...		do.	16	22	8		3 0	5 0	5 0	do.	In fair order
6	Beyer and Peacock ...	460	do. ...		do.	16	22	8		3 0	5 0	5 0	do.	do.
7	Do. ...	461	do. ...		do.	16	22	8		3 0	5 0	5 0	do.	do.
8	Kitson & Co. ...	1,377	do. ...		do.	16	22	8		3 0	5 0	5 0	May 1867	In very good order
9	Do. ...	1,378	do. ...		do.	16	22	8		3 0	5 0	5 0	do.	Under repair
10	Do. ...	1,379	do. ...		do.	16	22	8		3 0	5 0	5 0	October 1867	In very good order
11	Do. ...	1,380	do. ...		do.	16	22	8		3 0	5 0	5 0	September 1867	In fair order
12	Do. ...	1,381	do. ...		do.	16	22	8		3 0	5 0	5 0	July 1867	In good order
13	Do. ...	1,382	do. ...		do.	16	22	8		3 0	5 0	5 0	August 1867	In fair order
14	Do. ...	1,383	do. ...		do.	16	22	8		3 0	5 0	5 0	do.	do.
15	Do. ...	1,384	do. ...		do.	16	22	8		3 0	5 0	5 0	July 1867	do.
16	John Fowler & Co. ...	855	Incline work ..	6 W. C. engine with tender	Outside	17	26	6	Six wheels coupled	4 5	4 5	4 5	May 1868	In very good order
17	Do. ..	856	do. ...		do.	17	26	6		4 5	4 5	4 5	September 1868	do.
18	Do. ...	857	do. ...		do.	17	26	6		4 5	4 5	4 5	October 1868	do.
19	Do. ...	858	do. ...		do.	17	26	6		4 5	4 5	4 5	September 1868	do.
20	Beyer & Peacock ...	830	Passenger trains	Bogie engine with tender	Inside	16	22	8		3 6	6 0	6 0	August 1869	Under repair
21	Do. ...	831	do. ...		do.	16	22	8		3 6	6 0	6 0	do.	Moderate order
22	Do. ...	832	do. ...		do.	16	22	8		3 6	6 0	6 0	June 1869	In very good order
23	Do. ...	833	do. ...		do.	16	22	8		3 6	6 0	6 0	May 1869	Moderate order
24	Kitson & Co. ...	1,848	Mixed trains ..		do.	16	22	8		3 0	5 0	5 0	June 1873	Under repair
25	Do. ...	1,849	do. ...		do.	16	22	8		3 0	5 0	5 0	May 1873	In fair order
26	Do. ...	1,850	Passenger trains		do.	16	22	8		3 6	6 0	6 0	July 1873	In good order
27	Do. ...	1,851	do. ...		do.	16	22	8		3 6	6 0	6 0	August 1873	do.
28	Do. ...	2,000	Mixed trains ...		do.	16	22	8		3 0	5 0	5 0	June 1875	In fair order
29	Do. ...	2,001	do. ...		do.	16	22	8		3 0	5 0	5 0	do.	do.
30	R. Stephenson & Co. ...	1,812	Shunting ...	Tank engine	Outside	10	18	4	Four wheels coupled	3 6	No middle wheel	3 6	January 1869	In good order
31	Do. ..	1,813	do. ...	do. ...	do.	10	18	4		3 0	do.	5 0	do.	do.
32	Do. ...	2,281	Local trains ...	Bogie tank engine	Inside	13	22	8		3 0	5 0	5 0	March 1877	Moderate order
33	Do. ...	2,282	do. ...		do.	13	22	8		3 0	5 0	5 0	do.	In very good order
34	Do. ..	2,283	do. ...		do.	13	22	8		3 0	5 0	5 0	do.	do.
35	Kitson & Co. ...	2,176	do. ...		do.	13	22	8		3 0	5 0	5 0	November 1878	do.
36	Do. ..	2,177	do. ...		do.	13	22	8		3 0	5 0	5 0	December 1878	do.
37	Do. ...	2,178	do. ...		do.	13	22	8		3 0	5 0	5 0	February 1879	Moderate order
38	Do. ...	2,179	do. ...		do.	13	22	8		3 0	5 0	5 0	January 1879	In very good order
39	Do. ...	2,200	Mixed trains ...	Bogie engine with tender	do.	16	22	8		3 0	5 0	5 0	February 1879	In fair order
40	Do. ..	2,199	do. ..		do.	16	22	8		3 0	5 0	5 0	March 1878	Not very good repair
41	John Fowler & Co. ...	3,422	Incline work ...	6 W. C. engine with tender	Outside	17	26	6	Six wheels coupled	4 5	4 5	4 5	February 1879	In want of repair
42	Do. ...	3,423	do. ...		do.	17	26	6		4 5	4 5	4 5	May 1879	In very good order

43	Beyer & Peacock ...	1,906	Mixed trains ...	Bogie engine with tender	Inside	16	22	8	Four wheels coupled	3 0	5 0	5 0	May	1880	In very good order
44	Do. ...	1,907	do. ...		do.	16	22	8		3 0	5 0	5 0	July	1880	do.
45	Do. ...	1,908	do. ...		do.	16	22	8		3 0	5 0	5 0	September	1880	do.
46	Do. ...	1,904	do. ...		do.	16	22	8		3 0	5 0	5 0	November	1880	do.
47	Do. ...	1,905	do. ...		do.	16	22	8		3 0	5 0	5 0	September	1880	do.
48	Kitson & Co. ...	2,356	Local trains ...		do.	13	22	8		3 0	5 0	5 0	February	1881	do.
49	Do. ...	2,494	Incline work ...		Outside	17	26	10	Six wheels coupled	3 0	4 5	4 5	May	1883	In fair order
50	Do. ...	2,495	do. ...		do.	17	26	10		3 0	4 5	4 5	November	1884	In very good order
51	Do. ...	2,496	do. ...		do.	17	26	10		3 0	4 5	4 5	January	1885	In fair order
52	Do. ...	2,497	do. ...		do.	17	26	10		3 0	4 5	4 5	do.		do.
53	Do. ...	2,498	do. ...		do.	17	26	10		3 0	4 5	4 5	July	1884	do.
54	Do. ...	2,499	do. ...		do.	17	26	10		3 0	4 5	4 5	June	1884	In very good order
55	Do. ...	2,500	do. ...		do.	17	26	10		3 0	4 5	4 5	do.		In fair order
56	Do. ...	2,501	do. ...		do.	17	26	10		3 0	4 5	4 5	October	1884	do.
57	Do. ...	2,502	do. ...		do.	17	26	10		3 0	4 5	4 5	May	1884	do.
58	Do. ...	2,503	do. ...		do.	17	26	10		3 0	4 5	4 5	April	1884	do.

5.—Weight of Locomotive Engines and Tenders, Empty and Loaded, on December 31, 1887.

Engines.	Number of Engines of same Weight.	Engines. Empty. Bogie.	Leading.	Driving.	Trailling.	Total.	Engines. In Steam. Bogie.	Leading.	Driving.	Trailling.	Total.	Tenders. Empty. Leading.	Middle.	Trailling.	Total.	Tenders. Full. Leading.	Middle.	Trailling.	Total.	Mean Weight of Engine and Tender for whole Journey.	Approximate Weight, not having been actually verified.
Nos.		Tons cwt	Tons cwt.	Tons cwt.	Tons cwt.	Tons cwt.	Tons cwt.	Tons cwt.	Tons cwt.	Tons cwt.	Tons cwt.	Tons cwt.	Tons cwt.	Tons cwt.	Tons cwt.	Tons cwt.	Tons cwt.	Tons cwt.	Tons cwt.	Tons cwt.	Tons cwt.
1 to 7 ...	7	—	—	—	—	—	13 7	—	11 0	9 17	34 4	4 0	4 0	4 0	12 0	7 5	7 5	7 5	21 15	51 1	—
8 to 10 ...	3	—	—	—	—	—	13 9	—	11 13	10 9	35 11	3 17	3 17	3 17	11 11	7 1	7 1	7 1	21 3	52 18	—
11 to 15 ...	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3 17	3 17	3 17	11 11	7 1	7 1	7 1	21 3	—	52 18
16 to 19 and 41 to 42	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	10 8	10 15	11 5	32 8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	53 0
20 to 23 ...	4	—	—	—	—	—	11 18	—	12 1	10 19	34 18	3 17	3 17	3 17	11 11	7 1	7 1	7 1	21 3	52 5	—
24 and 25	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	52 10
26 and 27	2	—	—	—	—	—	11 18	—	12 1	10 19	34 18	3 17	3 17	3 17	11 11	7 1	7 1	7 1	21 3	52 5	—
28 and 29	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	52 10
30 and 31	2	—	(Tank engine shunting)			—	—	9 5	—	6 13	15 18	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	15 0	—
32 to 38 and 48	8	—	Tank engine			—	9 15	—	12 9	10 17	33 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	32 0	—
39 and 40	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	52 10
43 to 47 ...	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	52 10
49 to 58 ...	10	9 12	9 9	10 14	9 9	30 4	10	11 7	12 12	11 7	45 6	5 7	5 7	5 7	16 1	8 0	8 0	8 0	24 0	67 0	—

6.—Detail Mileage (exclusive of Shunting) of each Engine for the Year ended December 31, 1887.

No.	Class of Engine.	Total Mileage. Miles.	Chains.	Remarks.
1	For mixed trains	227	20	—
2	Do.	9,863	55	—
3	Do.	2,279	36	—
4	Do.	—		—
5	Do.	17,383	41	—
6	Do.	15,739	55	—
7	Do.	7,634	63	—
8	Do.	9,864	66	—
9	Do.	74	40	—
10	Do.	3,063	38	—
11	Do.	7,892	8	—
12	Do.	6,614	56	—
13	Do.	11,883	35	—
14	Do.	20,059	55	—
15	Do.	8,143	55	—
16	For incline work	9,504	20	—
17	Do.	10,441	77	—
18	Do.	5,954	28	—
19	Do.	7,859	2	—
20	For passenger trains	24,342	20	—
21	Do.	24,226	66	—
22	Do	2,936	50	—
23	Do.	23,726	56	—
24	For mixed trains	3,974	20	—
25	Do.	14,689	5	—
26	For passenger trains	22,728	28	—
27	Do.	25,381	0	—
28	For mixed trains	6,867	62	—
29	Do.	4,180	6	—
30	For shunting	1,027	40	—
31	Do. . ..	—		—
32	For local trains	12,693	24	Coast line
33	Do.	15,268	10	do.
34	Do.	18,758	20	do.
35	Do.	18,198	78	do.
36	Do.	11,520	68	do.
37	Do.	18,373	10	do.
38	Do.	13,230	10	do.
39	For mixed trains	23,788	48	—
40	Do.	14,771	33	—
41	For incline work . .	9,790	72	.
42	Do.	6,712	44	—
43	For mixed trains	1,370	71	—
44	Do.	11,547	49	—
45	Do.	12,853	76	—
46	Do.	14,026	30	—
47	Do. ...	14,452	12	—
48	For local trains	12,206	75	Coast line
49	Do	10,564	33	Nánu-oya extension
50	Do.	9,242	32	do.
51	Do.	10,339	6	do.
52	Do.	14,149	8	do.
53	Do.	9,224	27	do.
54	Do.	11,923	0	do.
55	Do.	14,653	40	do.
56	Do.	9,838	64	do.
57	Do.	13,689	22	do.
58	Do.	14,833	68	do.
	Total ...	656,586	53	

7.—Mileage of Passengers, Goods, and Trains for the Year ended December 31, 1887.

	Kalutara South and Maradána.	Fort and Wharf.	Colombo and Rambukkana.	Rambukkana and Kaḍugannáwa	Kaḍugannáwa and Pérádeniya	Pérádeniya and Kaḍugannáwa.	Pérádeniya and Náwalapiṭiya.	Kandy and Mátalé.	Náwalapiṭiya and Nánu-oya.	Mahara Quary and Mahára Points.	Total.
Passengers, ordinary Passengers, special... Goods, ordinary ... Goods, special ... Mixed ... ... Stone ... ... Empty Passengers... Empty Goods and Stone ...	119,269¾	537½	187,292	43,116½	18,457½	16,013	54,052½	35,449	95,354	162	569,730¼
Ballast, loaded and empty ... Firewood do. ...	1,591¼	437½	2,967	1,221	—	220	883¼	668½	1,160¼	84	9,233¼
Total ...	120,852½	1,011	190,259	44,337¼	18,457½	16,233	54,935¾	36,117½	96,514¼	246	578,964

8.—Detail Mileage of Vehicles for the Year ended December 31, 1887.

	Passengers, Horse Boxes, Carriage Trucks, Vans, Goods, Cattle Trucks.	Ballast and Stone.	Total.
Kalutara South and Maradána ...	...		
Fort and Wharf ...	...		
Mahara Quary and Mahara Points	...		
Colombo and Rambukkana ...	...		
Rambukkana and Kaḍugannáwa...	...		
Kaḍugannáwa and Pérádeniya	...	3,927,229 ... 4,848,070 ...	8,775,299
Pérádeniya and Kandy ...	...		
Pérádeniya and Náwalapiṭiya ...	...		
Kandy and Mátalé ...	...		
Náwalapiṭiya and Nánu-oya ...	...		

9.—Detailed Statement of Mileage of Engines for the Year ended December 31, 1887.

	Kalutara South and Maradana.	Fort and Wharf.	Colombo and Rambukkana.	Rambukkana and Kaḍugannáwa.	Kaḍugannáwa and Pérádeniya.	Pérádeniya and Kandy.	Pérádeniya and Náwalapiṭiya.	Kandy and Mátalé.	Náwalapiṭiya and Nánu-oya.	Mahara Quarry and Mahara Points.	Total Train Miles.
Trains											
Passengers, ordinary ...											
Passengers, special ...											
Goods, ordinary ...	119260¾	573½	187292	43116½	18457½	16013	54052	35449	95354	162	569730¼
Goods, special ...											
Mixed, ordinary .											
Mixed, special ..											
Other than Trains.											
Shunting ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	36432
Firewood ...	1591¾	437½	2967	1221	—	220	883¾	668½	1160¼	84	9233¾
Ballasting ...											
Pilot ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	71707
Empty ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5916
										Total ...	693019

10.—Total and Average Weight of Rolling Stock (Empty) on December 31, 1887.

Particulars of Stock.	No. of each Class.	Total Weight of Empty. Tons	cwt.	Average Weight of Vehicle. Tons	cwt.
Carriage Stock.					
H. E. the Governor's saloon, eight-wheeled...	1	18	18	18	18
1st and 2nd class composite, eight-wheeled...	10	180	0	18	0
3rd class and brake composite, eight-wheeled	11	181	10	16	10
3rd class, eight-wheeled ...	4	64	0	16	0
Refreshment cars, eight-wheeled ...	2	36	0	18	0
State carriage, four-wheeled ...	1	8	10	8	10
Saloons, four-wheeled ...	4	34	0	8	10
1st class, four-wheeled ...	9	67	10	7	10
1st and 2nd class composite, four-wheeled ...	6	45	0	7	10
2nd class, four-wheeled ...	13	97	10	7	10
3rd class, four-wheeled ...	70	490	0	7	0
Passenger brakes, four-wheeled ...	22	160	12	7	6
Horse boxes, four-wheeled ...	14	104	6	7	9
Carriage trucks, four-wheeled ...	11	52	5	4	15
	178	1,540	1	153	8
Wagon Stock.					
Covered goods, eight-wheeled ...	28	264	0	13	0
Covered and brake, eight-wheeled ...	6	82	10	13	15
Low sides, eight-wheeled ...	2	24	2	12	1
Cattle wagons, eight-wheeled ...	2	28	4	14	2
Covered goods, four-wheeled ...	303	1,727	2	5	14
High sides, four-wheeled ...	88	431	4	4	18
Low sides, four-wheeled ...	40	190	0	4	15
Goods brakes, four-wheeled ...	18	207	0	11	10
Gunpowder vans, four-wheeled ...	4	22	16	5	14
Cattle wagons, four-wheeled ...	17	97	15	5	15
Timber trucks, four-wheeled ...	8	37	4	4	13
	493	2,881	2	84	7

REPORT OF THE TRAFFIC SUPERINTENDENT FOR 1887.

THE traffic during the year 1887 has satisfactorily increased in nearly all branches, as the following tables will show :—

Coaching.

	1887.	1886.	Increase.	Decrease.
Ordinary Tickets :—				
First class	39,334	35,311	4,023	—
Second class	125,437	121,538	3,899	—
Third class	1,776,526	1,661,660	139,849	—
Coolies	24,983			—
Season Tickets :—				
First class	157	132	25	—
Second class	453	439	14	—
Third class	2,544	2,177	367	—
Parcels	152,487	140,626	11,861	—
Horses	1,484	1,593	—	109
Carriages	403	432	—	29
Dogs	4,923	4,283	640	—

Goods.

	General. Tons.	Public Works. Tons.
1887	141,339	20,956
1886	133,271	23,162
	Increase 8,068	Decrease 2,206

The receipts have correspondingly advanced, being Rs. 2,955,327 in 1887 as compared with Rs. 2,707,429 in 1886,—an increase of Rs. 247,898.

The length of the railway worked over has been the same as in 1886—viz., 180⅝ miles—but the additional traffic has necessitated an increase of 7,569 miles in the train mileage. Traffic train mileage only, exclusive of shunting, has been taken for the purposes of this report.

The improvement referred to affects all the lines except the Náwalapiṭiya branch, but the most marked is the Nánu-oya extension, which has exceeded the anticipations of the most sanguine.

The following statement will be found interesting, as showing the strides made in this section :—

Station.	Passengers Booked. 1887.	Passengers Booked. 1886.	Increase.	Goods received and despatched. 1887.	Goods received and despatched. 1886.	Increase or Decrease.
	No.	No.	No.	Tons	Tons	Tons
Galboḍa	5,240	5,238	2	641½	917½	276 decrease
Waṭawala	11,775	10,623	1,152	2,589	2,581	8 increase
Hatton	51,730	43,968	7,762	23,145	18,682	4,463 ,,
Koṭagala	10,726	9,339	1,387	3,207	2,393	814 ,,
Talawakęlé...	26,229	21,640	4,589	10,498	9,575	923 ,,
Waṭagoḍa	6,666	6,652	14	3,270	1,761	1,509 ,,
Nánu-oya	13,668	12,526	1,142	12,423	8,824	3,599 ,,
Total...	126,034	109,986	16,048	55,773½	44,733½	11,316 increase

Hatton is the most important station, and being the centre of a large district will continue to advance. Unfortunately, the yard is not suitably laid out for a heavy traffic, and considerable inconvenience is already experienced in consequence. Some extensions and improvements will shortly be recommended to enable the traffic to be conducted in the future in the same satisfactory manner as hitherto. A covered footbridge from the road to the station would be a great convenience to the travelling public.

Galboḍa gives the least return, which is due to its isolated position, there being no cart road to the station.

The opening of the Pundalu-oya road will doubtless encourage a traffic at Waṭagoḍa, and during the ensuing year I hope to see it take rank with the more important stations on this line. To meet the increasing traffic requirements at Waṭagoḍa, a weighbridge and a three-ton crane should be erected. A weighbridge should also be supplied at Koṭagala.

That Nánu-oya should do a business of over 12,000 tons is evidence of the value of even the last stage of the extension and an earnest of the return likely to accrue to a line to Haputalé. The success which has attended this enterprise is largely due to the regularity and despatch with which the traffic is transported, it being the almost invariable rule that goods loaded one day in Colombo reach the destination station the next.

The Mátalé line shows signs of reviving, there being an increase of 33,909 in the number of passengers booked at stations on that line, and of 812 tons in the goods traffic. The development of the tea estates in this district is likely to bring about a permanent improvement on this section. The opening of a goods station at Ukuwela has been a convenience to the planters residing in the immediate vicinity, but little business has been done.

As a natural consequence of the increase on the more distant section, the traffic to stations on the Náwalapiṭiya line has considerably fallen off, there being a decrease of 241 tons at Gampola and 3,150 at Náwalapiṭiya ; but the revenue does not suffer by this diminution, inasmuch as the traffic is now carried beyond, and not only to, these stations.

There is still a large amount of work to be done at Náwalapiṭiya passenger station, and the platform should be lengthened as already recommended.

There is an appreciable movement on the Coast line in the goods traffic (increase 1,000 tons), but I do not anticipate any great advance until the line is extended to a point beyond which the carts cannot successfully compete. An extension to Galle would probably be attended with great success, and would doubtless secure a large proportion of the 12,000 tons of goods traffic which annually passes over the road.

The passenger traffic on all lines has improved, though there is still a greater portion of second class passengers as compared with first than in the past years.

The train service was re-arranged in May last, when several important alterations were made, and a time-table issued which appears to give general satisfaction. The trains of this service keep very good time, and only in case of accident is there any serious unpunctuality.

The great slip at Waṭawala was finally cleared on February 17 and the line re-opened for traffic, since which we have been remarkably free from slips or other obstructions.

A serious accident, in which the driver and fireman were both injured, occurred to the 4.55 P.M. up train near Polgahawela on December 27, when the engine and tender were derailed and four trucks completely smashed in running over some tethered buffaloes which were lying on the line. The claims for consequent damage form the largest items in the expenditure for compensation, which otherwise would have been unusually light.

Traffic Superintendent's Office,
Colombo, March 30, 1888.

A. G. PERMAN,
Traffic Superintendent.

POST AND TELEGRAPHS.

REPORT OF THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL AND DIRECTOR OF TELEGRAPHS FOR 1887.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

IT is customary to refer to the revenue and expenditure of the Department, and I will therefore mention a few particulars under both headings, though the subject is one which cannot be dealt with in a satisfactory manner, on account of the system enforced by the Government in requiring the Department to pay for every service rendered to it by other Departments without sanctioning any corresponding recoupment for work done by the Post Office.

The correspondence, including parcels, of officials, their telegrams, and all letters addressed to them by their subordinates and other officials, as well as by private individuals, are conveyed free; the cost of more than one line of communication, which is required for purposes of local administration, and not for the conveyance of mails, is charged as an item of postal expenditure; and the issue of free money orders, in payment of salaries to Police Officers, are services which together represent a considerable portion of the work of the Department, and are performed without any sort of remuneration; while, on the other hand, the Department has to meet the claims of all other Departments against it, and cannot obtain a telegraph pole from the Crown forests without paying royalty. Under these circumstances, whatever the expenditure may be, it is obvious that the revenue can have no relation to it.

Expenditure.—The expenditure for the year, excluding the instalment paid for the cable, which was not mentioned in last year's report, is Rs. 477,551·95, being less than that of the previous year by a sum of Rs. 2,199·03, notwithstanding an increase of Rs. 6,606·72 on the vote for Fixed and Provisional Establishments. The cost of conveyance of mails over inland lines of communication, including subsidy paid to mail coaches, is Rs. 85,818. Sea conveyance cost Rs. 57,962·03. Adding the third instalment paid to the Indian Government for the Mannár Gulf cable, the total expenditure is Rs. 498,141·20.

Revenue.—The sale of postage labels, including the 5-cent stamp, which is used for revenue as well as postal purposes, realised Rs. 327,754·91, or Rs. 20,144·09½ more than in 1886. As there was a considerable improvement in business generally throughout the Island, only a portion of this increase can be claimed by the Post Office; but that there must have been a decided addition to the revenue from postage stamps during the year, is proved by the larger amount of correspondence which has been passed through most offices, more especially in the places where the extension of the tea enterprise has given the impetus.

Taking credit for the whole sale of postage stamps, and adding to the amount so realised the receipts on telegraph messages, parcel post, commission on money orders, and other sources mentioned below, a total of Rs. 431,993·52 is obtained; and if this be deducted from the total expenditure of Rs. 498,141·20, the balance of Rs. 66,247·68 represents roughly the amount paid by the Government for the conveyance of service mails and telegrams.

Deducting the cable item, which is an extraordinary one, the excess of expenditure is Rs. 45,658·38 plus the value of 5-cent stamps used for receipts, &c.

The following statement indicates the particulars of the Revenue and Expenditure of the Postal Department for 1887:—

REVENUE.

Postal Department.

	Amount. Rs.	c.
Sale of Postage Stamps	327,754	91
Postage collections	14,179	46
Commission, &c., on Inland Money Orders	16,131	57
Do. Indian do.	2,635	84
Do. Mauritius do.	3	0
Do. United Kingdom Money Orders	405	59
Do. Straits Money Orders	167	5
Do. Hongkong do.	1	4
Do. Australia do.	31	6
Receipts on Parcels exchanged with United Kingdom ...	1,696	31
Do. do Straits and Hongkong ...	103	61
Do. do India	1,216	25
Local Money Orders lapsed to Government	212	7
Government share of interest on Savings Bank investments ...	1,792	42
Amount found in unclaimed registered letters and by sale of articles found in dead letters	84	34
Sale of "Postal Guide"	148	0
Subscriptions to "Post Office Daily List"	540	0
Fines on subordinates and contractors	358	90
Miscellaneous items	50	97
Contractors' forfeitures	250	0
Interest allowed by Bank of Madras	924	57
Interest allowed by Chartered Mercantile Bank	263	37
Total ...	368,950	33

	Amount. Rs.	c.
Telegraph Department.		
Amount of sale on message traffic	234,744	12
Abbreviated address	1,270	0
Recovered on undercharged messages	40	73
Bearing messages to India	4,065	7
Credited by Indian Government on account of messages transferred from India to Ceylon during 1887	13,208	54
Refunds credited in India	36	13
Received from Traffic Manager for maintenance of Railway Telegraphs for 1887	11,799	63
On reply deposits credited by Indian Government on account of Foreign and Indo-Ceylon messages received	1,177	39
Revision of shares on Indo-Ceylon messages during the 1886–87 ...	2,991	31
Other recoveries	145	18
Total ...	269,748	10

EXPENDITURE.

Postal Department.		
Fixed Establishment	42,560	85
Provisional Establishment	94,349	81
Provisional Establishment, Telegraphs...	71,487	17
Conveyance of Mails, Postal and Telegraph Services	269,154	12
Total, both Departments ...	477,551	95
Cost of Cable, third instalment ...	20,589	25
Total ...	498,141	20
Telegraph Department.		
Payments made to Indian Government	187,186	27
Reply deposits to India	690	93½
Reply deposits to Foreign places	358	11½
Payments made to addressees on incoming reply deposit messages, Foreign and Indo-Ceylon	1,177	39
Amount refunded to Ceylon	36	13
Amount refunded in India	54	61
Indian Government, on account of incoming bearing messages ...	1,188	0
Inland reply deposit messages	5,743	46
	196,434	91
In favour of Ceylon Government	73,043	19
Total ...	269,478	10

SAVINGS BANKS.

The total sum which has been paid into the Post Office Savings Banks since a few offices were opened in 1885, is Rs. 311,797, of which Rs. 182,622·42 has been repaid, leaving a balance of Rs. 129,175·34 to the credit of depositors, who number 6,685.

During the year the business was extended to 72 new offices; and 2,111 fresh accounts were opened, principally by Sinhalese. That the interest in this important branch of Postal business is increasing, is proved by the applications which have reached me for Savings Banks at places where the Post Office does not afford this convenience.

Much more might be done if all employers of labour, other than proprietors and managers of estates, would insist upon a small monthly addition being made each month to a Savings Bank account; and they would very soon find that the trouble expended in this way would be repaid to them by the gradual improvement in the condition of their servants. It is impossible to say how much of the remittances made to India, principally Southern India, represents savings, but it may be taken for granted that a fair proportion of Rs. 609,001·33 remitted to India by Money Orders during this year is the unexpended wages of the Tamil coolies employed on plantations. Full particulars regarding the business transacted are furnished in the appendix.

MONEY ORDERS.

Inland Money Orders.—Since the Money Order business was started nine years ago there has not been such a rise in its transactions as is shown by the return of this year; and it is specially satisfactory to note that this is due to a general increase in the transactions of almost all offices, the most marked exception being Jaffna; but even there, though there is a falling off in the issue, the payments are larger than in previous years.

During the year 69,217 orders were issued to the value of Rs. 1,532,968·76, the commission earned being Rs. 16,131·57. There is a difference of 210 between numbers of orders issued and paid, and Rs. 6,736·84 between their values.

Indian Money Orders.—Very satisfactory conclusions in regard to the condition of affairs on plantations may be gathered from the Indian Money Order remittances, which have in value and number increased in a bound as much and more than they had done previously, by slow degrees each year since 1881—a period of six years.

The actual figures for the year are 12,590 orders issued, representing a value of Rs. 609,001·33, while the commission earned by this Department on this large remittance is only Rs. 2,154·35; the larger share of Rs. 4,569·96 of the amount collected being due to the Paying Department, which has, it is considered, the larger share of responsibility. So much difficulty in the payment of these orders and additional trouble has been thrown upon both the Indian and Ceylon Post Offices in tracing payees, that it will be necessary to refuse to issue orders to estate coolies who are unable to furnish the full details, which must be supplied to the Post Office of India, in order to secure prompt payment.

The total number of orders issued in India on Ceylon is 1,407, value Rs. 68,876·66, our share of commission being Rs. 481·49; and the addition of Rs. 2,154·35 to the Ceylon share of commission issued on India gives Rs. 2,635·54 as the earnings of the Department on this branch of business, which was undertaken in the interests of the planting community, and has certainly fulfilled its mission.

Foreign Money Orders.—Notwithstanding the loss on exchange, which induces remitters to avoid the commission charged on Post Office Orders on England, the transactions of the past year show a slight improvement on those of 1886.

The exchange of orders with the Straits show an increase of remittances on the previous year to the extent of Rs. 4,529·29, the total value of orders cashed being Rs. 32,325·29.

Value of orders exchanged with Hongkong and Mauritius are very trifling, and have decreased. There has been a considerable addition to the small transactions with the Australian Colonies and Tasmania.

PARCEL POST.

Parcel Post with the United Kingdom.—A comparative statement of this and the previous year shows that 769 more parcels were received and 50 more were despatched by the Parcel Post and P. & O. Parcel Post Services. The figures are :—

	1886.		1887.	
	Received.	Despatched.	Received.	Despatched.
By Parcel Post ...	3,988 ...	250 ...	4,930 ...	2,558
By P. & O. Parcel Post Services	1 900 ...	43 ...	1,727 ...	25
	5,988	2,543	6,657	2,583

The receipts on this account to the credit of the Department came to Rs. 1,696·31.

Parcel Post with India.—The increase in business during the year is represented by 434, and an addition to our receipts of Rs. 141·30, as compared with those of the previous year; 1,146 and 1,248 are respectively the numbers of parcels despatched to, and received from, India. The share recovered on the charges for transmission amounted to Rs. 1,216·25.

Exchange of Parcels with the Straits.—The exchange of parcels with the Straits Settlements is very much what it was during the previous year, though the parcels from Singapore are slightly in excess of the number received during 1886.

The receipts from this source are Rs. 103·64.

A few parcels were despatched to, and received from, Malta, Gibraltar, and Hongkong.

A more important facility is that afforded for the exchange of parcels with Victoria. Nine parcels received from, and seven despatched to, Melbourne is the introduction to a business which promises development.

A direct exchange of parcels with Germany *viâ* Bremen by the steamer of the Norddeutscher Lloyd Company has been arranged with the understanding that, if necessary, a service of parcels up to 6 lb. in weight will be forwarded by the German Postal Administration *viâ* Brindisi. By these arrangements, moreover, facilities are afforded for the transmission of parcels to other European countries in consideration of a small additional transit charge.

Through the medium of the British and German Postal Administration in addition to other services, parcels can now be exchanged between Ceylon and almost all parts of the world.

INLAND VALUE-PAYABLE PARCELS.

Value-payable parcels are coming more generally into use, 3,377 having been despatched from the Colombo Office, against 1,098 during the previous year. Tradesmen hesitate to use this system, because the addressee of a value-payable parcel sometimes regards the demand by the Post Office of delivery for prompt payment as a slur upon his credit, and refuses to receive the parcel. To those, however, who can afford to pay for the parcel on delivery, this system must commend itself as a means of avoiding the inconvenience of small bills and their settlement by money order or cheque. Thirty-three thousand miscellaneous and book packets were despatched from the General Post Office.

POSTAL ORDERS.

Postal Orders of the value from 50c. to Rs. 10 were placed in circulation on April 1, and during the nine months 5,001 of them, amounting to Rs. 18,574, were purchased, the commission earned being Rs. 234·40.

The result, which is certainly not satisfactory, is in a measure due to the preference shown by the natives for money orders, duplicates of which are issued in case the order does not reach the addressee; whereas as yet no similar provision has been made in the case of a missing postal order. When this drawback has been removed, these orders will be more popular, and will, I have no doubt, serve the purpose for which they were introduced.

POST AND TELEGRAPH LIBRARY AND CRICKET CLUB.

The Post and Telegraph Library and Cricket Club now has 79 members, and possesses, besides other property, 614 volumes. The balance to the credit of the Club at the end of the year was Rs. 389·14.

RETURNED LETTER OFFICE.

The figures of the year correspond very closely with those of the previous year, and call for no special comment, except in reference to the much larger value of cheques, drafts, and promissory notes found in unregistered letters, the figures being :—

	Rs.	c.
Cheques	6,733	37
Drafts	3,352	66
Promissory Notes	2,414	87
Total ...	12,500	90

The figures under the above for the previous year give a total of Rs. 1,267·21½ only.

POST OFFICE ACCOMMODATION.

A new Post Office was built at Hatton.

Rs. 11,040 is the yearly rental paid by this Department for buildings used as offices at different stations, which include Jaffna, Galle, Kurunégala, and Badulla, the chief towns of Provinces, as well as Ratnapura, Negombo, Kégalla, Kalutara, Mátalé, and Mannár.

I need only refer to the urgent necessity for a General Post Office at Colombo, as the subject has been so repeatedly dealt with in former reports.

TELEGRAPH REVENUE.

The year's receipts on charges of the transmission of messages amount to Rs. 227,821·21, as compared with Rs. 208,867·93, the figures for 1886. There is an increase of Rs. 11,287·26 in foreign private messages, Rs. 4,477·40 in Indo-Ceylon private messages, and Rs. 3,866·73 in inland private messages. A falling off in receipts under the head of Inland State, to the extent of Rs. 2,745·11, is due to the transmission of State telegrams free of charge.

Omitting the receipts on State messages, which are now for the most part conveyed "free," the revenue derived from inland traffic for the year is Rs. 27,661·68, or Rs. 3,866·73 more than the total amount of the previous year's collections given in the previous administration report for the period from October, 1885, to September, 1886. In view, however, of the decided improvement in business generally, which characterises the year under review, I will compare the receipts under the new tariff with those under the the old rupee rate on the basis of January's accounts, which would give for the year Rs. 26,883, or only Rs. 1,394·18 less than the actual sum obtained. If the receipts credited to three offices, Dambulla, Wilson's Bungalow, and Negombo, which were opened in the course of the year, are deducted, this sum is reduced to Rs. 866·48.

The increase in the number of inland private telegrams despatched, due principally to the "deferred" rate, is a satisfactory proof of the greater use which has been made of the telegraph since the charge was reduced; the total for the year being 29,283, or 6,883 more than the figures recorded in the previous report.

For reasons which I have already communicated to the Government, I do not like the triple traffic of "urgent," "ordinary," and "deferred," and should much prefer to have only one class of messages, the minimum charge for ten words being 50c. As a special convenience, messages might be received at the risk of the sender at or for an office which is closed, on payment of a fee which should be sufficient to limit, as far as possible, the transmission of such messages to cases of special urgency.

That the reduction of the traffic to a 50-cent message of words can be effected without loss of revenue is to a great extent proved by the increase in the "deferred" traffic under the present tariff. Taking the average of eleven months of the year under review, the number of "deferred" messages transmitted per month was 1,164, whereas for the month of March the number of these messages despatched was 2,069, exclusive of 244 such messages forwarded by the temporary Pearl Fishery Office.

Though the triple tariff of "urgent," "ordinary," and "deferred" messages has been in force since January, 1882, in India, where the "deferred" telegram, which is sent by night and delivered through the post the following morning, competes successfully with a letter, the Director-General of Indian Telegraphs, in his last report, considers it financially unsuccessful notwithstanding its adaptation to Indian wants, and there does not, therefore, seem to be any particular object in retaining the system in this Colony, as the division of messages into three classes is not suited to our small lines with many offices on them, and the "deferred" telegram, which cannot be maintained on the Indian plan, is brought into competition with the ordinary message, which it must sooner or later supersede.

A new line of telegraphs was constructed between Colombo and Negombo at a cost of Rs. 10,840. The line is carried on the railway posts as far as Henaratgoḍa, where it branches off to Minuwangoḍa, and thence to Negombo. The receipts from the office since it was opened on April 1 amount to Rs. 385·10.

There are now 1,203 miles of wire under departmental supervision.

Distribution return (F 3) furnishes full particulars concerning the different lines of communication throughout the Island.

The third instalment due to the Indian Government on account of the cost of the new cable between Talaimannár and Paumben, amounting to Rs. 20,589·25, was settled. There are now only two more instalments due.

COACH SERVICE.

A contract was entered into for the conveyance of mails by coach and runner between Nánu-oya and Badulla, the subsidy agreed upon being Rs. 458·33 per month.

It is hoped that this service, which is a great convenience to residents in Uva, may prove more successful than the last attempt made to run a coach over this mountainous road.

CORRESPONDENCE WITH INDIA BY B. I. STEAMERS AND DÂK.

Notwithstanding the prosperous condition of the immigrant population, as evinced by the large remittances made by them to Southern India, the reduction on letters by the Dâk route and B. I. steamers, which was introduced on January 1, 1887, has not increased the number of letters despatched from Ceylon to India by this service to the extent which I should have anticipated. Comparing the returns of January, 1887, with those of January last, the number of letters despatched were 18,358 and 25,658 respectively. The reduction in postage is one-third of the previous rate.

To complete the advantages of this reduction in postage with India, it is necessary that payment by these routes should be optional. At present unpaid and insufficiently paid letters can only be forwarded by the more expensive P. & O. and M. M. Services, involving surcharges which are disproportionately high. Steps are being taken to remedy this.

MAILS EXCHANGED WITH LONDON.

The weight of mails despatched from Ceylon to London increased during the year by some 200 lb. paid letters, which approximately represents the falling off in the weight of unpaid letters. There is an addition of 400 lb. to the weight of books.

In regard to mails received from London, there is a large increase of some 2,000 lb. in the weight of books, under which heading newspapers are classed.

ROBBERY OF MAILS.

On the night of September 6, as the runner carrying the Deltota mails, accompanied by another man, were going along the road passing the Hantané estate, eight Sinhalese men assaulted them, wrenched the spear out of the hand of the runner, and made off with the mail bag, which has not since been recovered. Four men charged with the robbery were subsequently arrested, charged before the Supreme Court, and convicted.

BURNING OF TWO POST OFFICES.

The Pundalu-oya bazaar and Post Office were burnt on March 10, owing to a squib fired by a Tamil man falling in a lighted state on a thatched roof. The fire spread so rapidly that there was hardly any time to save anything of the office furniture and records, which were almost all consumed.

A similar occurrence took place on May 8, when the bazaars on the Pattiyagama estate, Deltota, were, with the Police Station and Post Office, destroyed by a fire which, commencing at one end of the little village, was quickly driven along the two lines of boutiques by a high wind which was blowing on the day in question. A very small portion of the Post Office books and property was saved.

BOX RENTS.

Seventy private letter-boxes are rented by private subscribers at Rs. 10·50 each. The sum realised—Rs. 787·50—is devoted to the payment of the clerks employed in attending to the boxes and their delivery.

Ten officials are allowed to use boxes without charge.

Having resumed charge of the Department late in the year, I have, as far as possible, restricted my report to a summary of the year's transactions.

General Post Office,
Colombo, April 30, 1888.

T. SKINNER,
Postmaster-General and Director of Telegraphs.

APPENDIX.

A 1.—Abstract of Letters, &c., despatched and received at the Post Offices in Ceylon during 1887.

	Western Province.	Central Province	Southern Province.	North-Western Province.	North-Central Province.	Eastern Province.	Northern Province.	Province of Uva.	Total.
Despatched.									
Letters on Service ...	1,144,693	244,364	102,135	49,580	11,779	33,078	76,207	45,088	1,706,924
Letters Post Paid ...	6,565,024	1,620,440	310,303	119,726	22,467	76,496	235,013	177,109	9,126,578
Letters Post Not Paid ...	62,667	14,306	5,435	1,739	189	1,157	3,720	1,795	91,008
Parcels on Service ...	40,610	5,401	2,674	2,647	225	1,100	1,704	1,207	55,568
Miscellaneous Packets ...	102,949	25,751	5,972	1,469	258	1,418	2,093	4,266	144,176
Registered Letters ...	34,884	21,548	7,469	2,546	692	2,880	7,958	6,249	84,226
Printed Matter	2,667,266	106,277	24,539	7,112	1,353	7,434	36,970	10,172	2,861,123
Post Cards ...	96,830	25,270	5,576	2,840	734	696	4,977	5,660	142,583
Value-Payable Parcels ...	2,474	140	5	6	4	41	22	16	2,708
Received.									
Letters on Service ...	1,448,384	219,472	96,035	46,204	11,276	33,815	76,775	40,384	1,972,345
Letters Post Paid ...	3,839,120	1,735,777	313,795	119,035	22,667	72,907	219,053	179,496	6,501,850
Letters Post Not Paid ...	54,186	21,483	5,136	3,118	635	1,841	3,913	4,088	94,400
Parcels on Service ...	26,003	5,315	3,775	3,761	283	1,185	2,414	1,691	44,427
Miscellaneous Packets ...	58,797	29,579	6,563	2,798	663	2,316	3,424	5,731	109,871
Registered Letters ...	67,079	31,081	8,083	1,969	294	3,633	7,969	3,093	123,201
Printed Matter ...	522,400	516,284	91,967	35,450	9,194	33,057	58,112	72,662	1,339,126
Post Cards ...	64,797	84,849	6,490	2,947	706	1,314	4,935	6,062	172,100
Value-Payable Parcels ...	487	647	80	419	74	242	130	328	2,407

Despatched	...	14,214,894
Received	...	10,359,727
Grand Total	...	24,574,621

B 1.—Statement of Particulars of Money Order Transactions between Ceylon and the United Kingdom during 1887.

RECEIPTS.	Rs.	c.	PAYMENTS.	Rs.	c.
Amount of Orders issued on the United Kingdom	25,998	29	Remittances to London	13,167	29
Exchange collected on above ...	11,102	69	Half-share of commission payable to United Kingdom	129	12
Commission collected on above ...	472	0	Exchange paid for drafts on London ...	5,504	15
Half-share of commission on Orders payable in Ceylon	62	71	Orders received	12,441	46
Amount of Orders outstanding ...	83	0	Exchange paid on above ...	5,237	80
Value of Orders returned to London ...	6	37	Balance ...	1,245	24
Total ...	37,725	6	Total ...	37,725	6

B 2.—Statement showing the Number and Amount of Orders issued and paid in Ceylon, and the Amount of Commission collected in 1887.

Orders issued.	Exchange. Rs.	Amount. Rs. c.	Orders paid.	Amount. Rs. c.
1,354	472	25,998 29	456	12,441 46

B 3.—Money Orders between Ceylon and the United Kingdom despatched and received, from 1873 to 1887.

	Despatched.				Received.			
	No. of Orders.	Amount. £ s. d.	Amount. Rs c.		No. of Orders.	Amount. £ s. d.	Amount. Rs. c.
1873	271	481 11 6	4,815 75		22	113 19 0	1,139 50
1874	219	589 11 10	5,895 92		26	74 7 3	743 62
1875	267	735 11 11	7,355 96		61	204 14 2	2,047 8
1876	156	407 11 2	4,075 61		69	255 7 11	2,553 96
1877	283	638 11 5	6,385 71		67	175 5 11	1,752 96
1878	268	959 11 5	9,595 54		80	223 19 9	2,239 87
1879	550	1,226 4 8	12,262 33		91	265 11 1	2,655 54
1880	896	1,985 10 7	19,855 29		145	430 7 6	4,303 75
1881	1,313	3,029 11 2	30,295 58		149	435 4 11	4,352 46
1882	1,426	3,305 15 2	33,057 58		147	541 17 0	5,418 50
1883	1,404	3,481 4 6	34,812 25		179	446 1 9	4,460 87
1884	1,578	4,001 16 9	40,018 37		208	771 16 1	7,718 4
1885	1,363	2,901 4 10	29,012 44		257	826 0 2	8,260 8
1886	1,107	2,108 12 6	21,086 25		404	1,163 10 9	11,635 37
1887	1,354	2,599 16 7	25,998 29		456	1,244 2 11	12,441 46

B 4.—Number and Amount of Through Orders issued and paid through the Medium of the London Office during 1887.

Issues.		Payments.	
Number of Orders	44	Number of Orders	48
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Amount	66 17 3	Amount	150 15 2
Amount in local currency	Rs. 905·05	Amount in local currency	Rs. 2,215·09

B 5.—Statement showing the Money Order Transactions with the Straits Settlements, Hongkong, Mauritius, and the Colony of Australia during 1887.

		Rs. c.
	Straits Settlements.	
581	Orders issued from Singapore and cashed in Ceylon, amounting to	32,325 29
15	Orders issued on Ceylon and forwarded to Singapore, amounting to	464 16
	Total	32,789 45
	Hongkong.	
11	Orders issued at Hongkong and cashed in Ceylon, amounting to	349 52
5	Orders issued in Ceylon and forwarded to Hongkong, amounting to	67 58
	Total	417 10
	Mauritius.	
6	Orders issued at Mauritius and cashed in Ceylon, amounting to	388 80
1	Order issued in Ceylon and forwarded to Mauritius, amounting to	19 50
	Total	408 30
	Perth, Western Australia.	£. s. d.
13	Orders received and cashed in Ceylon, amounting to	49 10 0
1	Order issued in Ceylon on Western Australia, amounting to	4 18 2
	Total	54 8 2
	Sydney, New South Wales.	
66	Orders received and cashed in Ceylon, amounting to	264 16 3
6	Orders issued on Sydney, amounting to	6 15 2
	Total	271 11 5
	Adelaide, South Australia.	
28	Orders received and cashed in Ceylon, amounting to (None issued.)	164 13 8
	Melbourne, Victoria.	
22	Orders cashed in Ceylon, amounting to	76 5 5
6	Orders issued, amounting to	4 17 3
	Total	81 2 8
	Brisbane, Queensland.	
59	Orders cashed in Ceylon, amounting to	339 3 6
2	Orders issued, amounting to	4 0 0
	Total	343 3 6
	Hobart, Tasmania.	
4	Orders cashed in Ceylon, amounting to (None issued.)	20 13 7

B 6.—Statement showing the Number and Amount of Local Money Orders and Postal Orders issued and paid, and Commission collected, during 1887.

	No. of Orders Issued.	Amount of Orders Issued. Rs. c.	Commission. Rs. c.	Amount of Orders Paid. Rs. c.	No. of Orders Paid.
Agrapatana	589	12,148 36	125 36	2,071 62	65
Ambaganuwa	630	9,930 65	107 47	2,146 57	70
Ambalaṇgoḍa	431	9,946 74	103 58	25,166 23	1,385
Anurádhapura	1,591	35,703 56	404 64	9,643 75	249
Aranáyaka	339	6,040 32	67 47	298 84	28
Avisáwélla	719	11,800 66	127 57	6,494 24	186
Baddégama	121	1,961 76	25 15	2,906 94	181
Badulla	1,468	28,000 52	309 32	25,214 80	790
Balaṇgoḍa	481	8,928 70	102 28	10,499 99	226
Baṇḍáragama	87	1,002 82	10 60	3,146 3	149
Batticaloa	1,943	80,682 63	849 28	28,052 88	830
Batticotta	72	1,828 1	14 23	29,115 48	888
Beliatta	154	5,915 97	61 15	3,688 25	98
Bentoṭa	230	3,766 52	40 81	8,122 90	479
Béruwala	140	2,528 0	26 17	13,355 14	807
Bogawantaláwa	654	11,104 9	121 2	457 31	49
Chavakachchéri	46	577 78	5 16	1,802 50	102
Chilaw	693	12,077 74	143 92	11,040 35	302
Colombo	5,286	167,033 33	1,829 28	414,806 32	20,395
Colombo Courts	547	8,612 93	101 80	15,803 45	1,065
Dambulla	333	7,100 18	77 44	10,326 2	165
Deltoṭa	233	3,164 5	31 33	877 42	39
Dikoya	1,562	29,175 37	297 22	5,924 96	223
Doḍandúwa	192	3,913 49	40 95	13,148 40	300
Dolosbáge	242	3,632 9	37 40	414 92	16
Elkaduwa	171	1,957 35	23 48	382 96	43
Galkissa	114	2,351 79	21 29	8,090 71	563
Galle	2,609	47,577 87	518 94	52,389 87	3,129
Gampola	1,042	18,495 94	214 92	12,332 65	610
Grandpass	152	2,381 62	25 13	7,525 27	556
Haldummulla	984	24,744 60	262 35	6,296 12	158
Hambantoṭa	851	15,278 57	172 46	4,301 20	162
Haṇwella	192	2,818 87	32 73	8,759 12	190
Haputalé	682	10,261 51	112 58	3,282 6	112
Hatton	1,301	24,239 75	256 36	6,320 92	206
Héwáheṭa	169	3,178 2	33 95	1,064 43	36
Hikkaḍuwa	99	1,504 87	16 18	3,070 50	216
Ja-ela	187	7,090 41	72 68	5,333 22	322
Jaffna	741	21,403 87	229 19	87,775 20	2,713
Jaffna Kachchéri	280	8,060 3	84 21	8,335 14	334
Kaḍugannáwa	420	9,844 52	106 48	2,254 1	159
Kalmunai	456	8,399 80	100 98	1,423 85	59
Kalpiṭiya	261	4,281 51	52 9	2,269 45	63
Kalutara	687	12,469 16	131 77	16,216 60	1,170
Kaṇḍapola	57	634 33	7 35	444 45	3
Kandy	4,386	125,225 2	903 89	66,901 35	5,339
Kankésanturai	32	689 95	6 40	5,055 70	170
Kaṭaluwa	101	1,929 4	16 65	17,330 75	807
Kaṭunáyaka	97	1,380 19	14 16	480 68	56
Kayts	39	507 44	4 9	12,071 25	446
Kégalla	1,165	14,581 40	181 89	5,290 1	2877
Kochchikaḍé	118	1,371 39	16 0	391 12	2
Kollupiṭiya	231	3,374 9	32 40	8,177 88	754
Kosgoḍa	69	577 14	4 94	2,929 71	217
Koslanda	519	12,624 99	133 84	2,911 99	79
Koṭagala	620	8,797 92	95 6	3,813 24	99
Kotmale	322	4,737 19	54 3	1,980 38	32
Kóṭṭe	100	1,128 50	12 84	4,308 39	320
Kurunégala	2,361	60,099 61	677 63	22,311 38	844
Lindula	979	17,958 71	186 59	5,064 97	159
Lunugala	591	15,738 72	165 56	3,201 49	92
Mádampé	335	6,382 49	75 16	4,648 46	130
Maḍawalaṭenna	201	2,719 60	30 62	4,054 65	104
Maḍulkelé	281	5,091 83	50 74	2,117 67	87
Mallákam	37	687 91	5 90	6,432 19	291
Manipai	71	1,767 2	14 56	31,616 37	1,043
Maskeliya	1,002	15,286 61	158 82	2,926 52	93
Mátalé	2,050	49,565 85	540 83	14,365 24	726
Mátara	1,258	22,012 8	255 84	28,428 87	881
Mannár	719	20,656 25	219 60	19,288 34	359
Maradána	614	10,727 49	115 54	19,201 76	1,367
Maturaṭa	482	8,492 43	90 10	1,274 1	63
Minuwangoḍa	137	1,185 74	13 95	1,433 98	80
Moraṭuwa	332	9,156 95	89 70	47,658 55	3,062
Morowaka	379	9,343 3	94 66	4,589 29	119
Mullaittivu	303	7,934 4	83 80	10,047 22	174
Mutwal	179	3,106 30	31 52	7,740 35	590
Náinamaḍama	234	4,351 29	50 53	2,048 57	76
Nánu-oya	665	10,719 0	112 37	5,122 69	151
Náwalapiṭiya	1,317	22,873 0	252 14	12,690 64	466
Néboda	115	1,640 36	15 90	631 34	24
Negombo	1,487	30,645 50	344 14	9,092 12	547
Nuwara Eliya	1,923	29,006 34	333 79	14,225 62	911
Pallai	125	1,298 36	13 74	1,853 26	43
Pánaduré	254	3,535 41	32 67	31,586 28	2,134

	No. of Orders Issued.	Amount of Orders Issued. Rs. c.	Commission. Rs. c.	Amount of Orders Paid Rs. c.	No. of Orders Paid.
Passara	326	7,704 6	78 91	653 58	37
Pearl Fishery	91	2,934 53	28 90	504 0	7
Pelmadulla	325	6,743 46	76 4	2,025 28	56
Pérádeniya	214	2,730 56	28 15	1,717 61	170
Point Pedro	170	4,471 95	43 94	52,227 13	921
Polgahawela	307	7,931 85	83 84	3,926 17	157
Pundalu-oya	281	4,565 28	47 27	1,457 49	38
Pussellâwa	356	4,265 24	43 45	3,094 65	143
Puttalam	1,274	29,798 20	339 99	16,086 7	371
Rakwána	569	10,543 21	114 68	6,107 63	135
Ramboda	272	4,502 90	48 72	1,621 61	56
Rangalla	138	1,601 85	14 6	177 0	19
Ratnapura	1,306	31,212 99	309 11	15,988 82	586
Rattota	184	3,259 18	34 80	494 80	31
Slave Island	412	7,038 74	68 43	10,793 20	905
Talawakeló	962	18,801 78	189 54	2,107 51	134
Tangalla	528	14,792 31	163 14	4,460 6	131
Teldeniya	225	3,908 89	42 65	3,098 60	84
Trincomalee	2,089	79,708 68	831 85	35,878 67	683
Uda Pussellâwa	418	5,130 60	57 88	3,041 1	75
Udugama	94	1,691 38	16 51	825 62	39
Urugala	24	475 40	5 60	265 33	8
Utuwankanda	18	651 5	7 0	332 30	17
V.-Vilankulam	485	11,601 72	126 8	1,311 38	49
Valuvettiturai	67	3,536 91	34 50	3,066 35	141
Véyangoda	278	2,516 10	30 13	8,743 70	240
Wattégama	237	3,950 56	38 8	2,295 81	63
Weligama	258	3,740 58	41 47	8,734 50	395
Wilson's Bungalow	249	3,169 41	38 36	2,338 32	63
Yatiyantota	592	7,532 55	80 18	5,170 40	113
Total	69,217	1,532,968 76	16,131 57	1,526,231 92	69,007

B 7.—Statement showing the Number of Indian Money Orders issued and paid in the undermentioned Post Offices, and Commission collected thereon during 1887.

Offices.	No. Issued.	Amount. Rs. c.	Commission. Rs. c.	No. Paid.	Amount. Rs. c.
Agrapatana	219	11,761 61	127 74	9	506 0
Ambagamuwa	134	8,282 25	87 53	6	104 0
Ambalangoda	8	191 0	2 49	2	32 50
Anurádhapura	119	7,046 50	76 2	6	162 0
Aranáyaka	74	3,143 0	35 52	3	350 0
Avisáwélla	117	4,604 93	52 59	4	64 0
Baddégama	8	331 62	4 23	—	—
Badulla	587	38,073 18	403 46	23	1,043 0
Balangoda	64	3,213 50	35 33	5	204 50
Bandáragama	—	—	—	—	—
Batticaloa	137	8,103 61	86 49	27	2,564 50
Batticotta	9	176 56	2 48	49	1,083 49
Bentota	3	225 0	2 25	—	—
Béruwela	4	140 0	1 49	—	—
Bogawantaláwa	218	9,672 30	107 83	8	280 0
Chavakachchéri	6	250 12	2 87	15	1,359 0
Chilaw	26	576 5	6 67	—	—
Colombo	2,293	94,952 22	1,069 51	517	16,161 32
Colombo Courts	100	2,811 71	34 13	—	—
Dambulla	17	415 0	4 96	1	49 50
Deltota	106	4,473 12	50 12	—	—
Dikoya	480	19,941 23	223 66	13	346 0
Dodandúwa	9	1,155 0	11 62	12	1,235 0
Dolosbage	83	5,233 0	55 95	1	40 0
Elkaduwa	45	3,096 25	31 84	5	420 0
Galkissa	11	248 12	3 34	1	1 12
Galle	92	3,840 59	44 11	110	9,725 68
Gampola	217	7,583 11	89 1	10	240 0
Grandpass	4	105 0	1 12	—	—
Haldummulla	144	8,633 36	92 3	3	160 0
Hambantota	6	73 36	1 23	7	445 75
Hangwella	11	210 87	3 35	—	—
Haputalé	251	12,727 12	131 69	7	278 0
Hatton	138	7,544 0	81 77	6	350 0
Héwáheta	121	5,209 50	58 30	4	43 68
Hikkaduwa	1	20 25	0 25	—	—
Ja-éla	2	35 0	0 37	—	—
Jaffna	123	5,108 49	59 60	88	3,849 48
Jaffna Kachchéri	32	432 52	6 67	2	55 0
Kadugannáwa	54	2,173 62	24 68	12	427 0
Kalmunai	38	619 50	8 25	3	210 0
Kalutara	66	1,706 17	21 86	3	45 0
Kalpitiya	16	862 0	8 98	2	200 0
Kandapola	11	483 0	5 37	1	11 50
Kandy	919	46,316 81	503 84	110	4,738 73
Kankésanturai	30	3,623 12	36 48	15	2,025 0
Kataluwa	2	21 87	0 37	2	225 0
Kayts	7	172 0	2 49	3	230 0

Offices.	No. Issued.	Amount. Rs. c.	Commission. Rs. c.	No. Paid	Amount. Rs. c.
Kégalla	21	1,069 0	11 73	1	2 0
Kollupitiya	54	1,157 50	14 62	—	—
Kochchikadé	12	210 0	2 72	—	—
Kosgoda	2	42 68	0 62	—	—
Koslanda	188	10,470 18	112 13	4	170 0
Kotagala	144	5,467 75	61 20	13	612 50
Kotmale	97	3,848 25	42 3	3	86 0
Kóttó	2	250 0	2 50	—	—
Kurunégala	138	5,786 43	65 27	1	5 0
Lindula	231	11,616 37	127 51	11	852 37
Lunugala	184	7,947 50	90 63	3	110 0
Mádampé	44	1,770 50	20 21	1	10 0
Madawalatenna	30	2,743 50	28 62	2	99 50
Madulkelé	176	12,403 93	129 48	4	290 0
Mallákam	4	60 0	0 74	8	935 87
Manipai	12	1,515 75	15 24	20	574 68
Mannar	47	2,477 43	27 19	50	5,837 0
Maradána	73	2,614 43	30 24	—	—
Maskeliya	541	25,082 18	279 45	10	430 0
Mátalé	367	22,102 25	206 59	7	385 0
Mátara	13	374 4	4 87	—	68 12
Maturata	141	7230 87	80 39	8	70 37
Minuwangoda	9	280 0	3 37	—	—
Moratuwa	25	770 0	8 94	3	88 5
Morowaka	21	1,064 0	12 53	—	—
Mullaittivu	—	—	—	10	1,200 0
Mutwal	24	441 0	42 32	—	—
Nainamadama	41	877 75	11 55	—	—
Nánu-oya	82	3,260 50	37 64	4	66 75
Náwalapitiya	289	14,294 43	157 91	17	490 0
Neboda	30	1,076 0	12 84	2	40 0
Negombo	153	5,279 52	60 54	8	425 75
Nuwara Eliya	282	10,629 84	123 12	22	1,620 80
Pallai	1	18 0	0 25	—	—
Pánaduré	14	382 0	4 23	—	—
Passara	116	6,181 75	67 82	5	375 0
Pearl Fishery	4	25 0	0 48	—	—
Pelmadulla	18	415 0	4 72	—	—
Péradeniya	32	906 75	11 8	6	144 50
Point Pedro	20	544 30	6 70	10	930 0
Polgahawela	17	357 25	5 24	2	52 0
Pundalu-oya	130	6,045 0	67 61	2	60 0
Pusselláwa	183	8,179 68	91 17	6	144 0
Puttalam	122	7,481 93	78 97	4	226 0
Rakwána	100	3,931 0	44 75	2	55 0
Ramboda	104	5,981 0	63 57	5	300 0
Rangalla	36	1,586 0	17 83	—	—
Ratnapura	26	902 0	10 10	2	18 0
Rattota	71	4,502 50	48 34	2	155 0
Slave Island	100	3,221 87	37 47	—	—
Talawakelé	320	17,438 93	190 48	7	244 6
Tangalla	3	17 18	0 49	2	15 75
Teldeniya	126	6,928 0	76 40	5	395 0
Trincomalee	163	11,457 80	120 24	10	707 75
Uda Pusselláwa	233	13,866 87	148 98	4	160 0
Udugama	10	549 62	5 86	—	—
Urugala	10	491 0	5 49	—	—
Utuwankanda	4	140 0	1 49	—	—
Vavuniya-Vilákulam	6	159 0	1 87	2	75 0
Valuvettiturai	2	5 87	0 24	14	799 0
Véyangoda	10	347 25	4 62	—	—
Wattégama	48	2,055 0	22 84	3	65 0
Weligama	2	12 6	0 24	—	—
Wilson's Bungalow	75	2,718 50	31 27	1	30 0
Yattiyantota	63	2,321 50	26 79	2	120 0
Total	12,808	609,001 33	6,724 31	1,407	68,806 57

B 8.—Commission gained on Indian Money Order Transactions during 1887.

	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
To total amount of commission collected by Ceylon Orders on India	6,724 31	
To commission allowed by the Indian Department on their Orders on Ceylon	481 49	
		7,205 80
By amount of commission claimed by the Indian Office as their share	—	4,569 96
Amount in favour of Ceylon Government ...	—	2,635 84

C 1.—British Parcel Post Service, Direct.

	Number of Parcels.	Net Weight of Parcels.	Rates at which charged.	Customs Duty taxed on Parcels received.
		lb.	c.	Rs. c.
Malta.				
Received in Ceylon ...	16	49	61	24 30
Despatched to Malta ...	1	6	4	—
Total ...	17	55	65	24 30
Gibraltar.				
Received in Ceylon ...	1	5	1	0 98
Despatched from Ceylon	1	3	2	—
Total ...	2	8	3	0 98
Hongkong.				
Received in Ceylon ...	3	6	5	3 90
Despatched from Ceylon	3	10	7	—
Total ...	6	16	12	3 90
Melbourne, Victoria, Australia.				
Received in Ceylon ...	9	36	30	6 63
Despatched from Ceylon	7	26	24	—
Total ...	16	62	54	6 63

C 2.—Indian Orders issued in 1887.

	Number of Orders issued.	Amount. Rs. c.	Commission. Rs. c.
January ...	829	54,299 60	591 37
February ...	952	48,795 71	533 62
March ...	904	43,763 12	484 59
April ...	1,006	52,990 63	577 51
May ...	1,139	55,547 5	613 45
June ...	1,028	56,177 22	609 2
July ...	1,087	52,420 20	586 24
August ...	1,108	51,316 73	566 18
September ...	1,075	42,046 44	474 86
October ...	1,323	57,918 20	643 42
November ...	1,216	53,270 61	592 9
December ...	923	40,455 82	451 96
Total ...	12,590	609,001 33	6,724 31

C 3.—Statement showing an Abstract of the Actual Cash Transactions on Parcels exchanged between Ceylon, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, India, and the Straits Settlements during 1887.

Receipts.	Amount. Rs. c.
Collection on 1,727 Parcels received from the United Kingdom ...	2,635 77
Collection on 35 Parcels despatched to the United Kingdom ...	295 50
Amount received from the P. & O. Company as share due to the Ceylon Post Office	88 41
Collection on 1,248 Parcels received from India ...	1,248 80
Collection on 1,146 Parcels despatched to India ...	1,216 25
Collection on 214 Parcels despatched to the Straits Settlements ...	233 75
Collection on 120 Parcels received from Straits Settlements ...	85 41
Total ...	5,803 89

Payments.	Amount. Rs. c.
To Customs as duty ...	2,573 51
To the P. & O. Company, their share ...	220 19
Net revenue to Government ...	3,010 19
Total ...	5,803 89

C 4.—Abstract of Parcels exchanged with the United Kingdom.

Total Number of Parcels received in Ceylon during 1887 ...	1,727
Total Number of Parcels forwarded from Ceylon during 1887 ...	35*
Total in 1887 ...	1,762
Total in 1886 ...	1,943
Decrease ...	181

* Every one of these Parcels is above 11 lb in weight; for those under that weight see the British Parcel Post Service.

C 5.—Statement showing the Collections and Payments on Parcels exchanged with the Straits Settlements.

Receipts.	Rs.	c.
Collection on 120 Parcels received from the Straits Settlements ...	85	41
Collection on 214 Parcels forwarded to Straits Settlements ...	233	75
	319	16
Payments to Customs and P. & O. Company (Rs. 85·41 + Rs. 130·11) ...	215	52
Net revenue to Government ...	103	64

C 6.—Statement of Amounts paid in to Revenue in 1887 on account of Parcel Post Transactions.

	Rs.	c.
Total revenue due on Parcels exchanged with the United Kingdom in 1886	2,173	72
Do. do. India during 1884 and 1885	989	50
Do. do. Straits Settlements do. ...	102	14
Total ...	3,265	36

C 7.—Statement showing the Number of Parcels despatched to and received from India, and the several Amounts collected and paid thereon.

		Rs.	c.
Amount collected on 1,146 Parcels despatched to India ...		1,216	25
Amount collected on 1,248 Parcels received from India ...		1,248	80
2,394		2,465	5
	Deduct payments as Custom Duty ...	1,248	80
		1,216	25

Comparative Statements for 1886 *and* 1887.

Net revenue to Government on 2,394 Parcels received and despatched in 1887		1,216	25
Net revenue to Government on 2,060 Parcels received and despatched in 1886		1,074	95
Total increase ...	334	141	30

D 1.—Statement showing the Number of Letters, &c., received at the Returned Letter Offices during 1887, and how they were disposed of.—

Western Province	19,696
Central Province	11,894
Southern Province	3,609
Northern Province	1,044
North-Western Province	1,752
Eastern Province	733
North-Central Province	439
Province of Uva	1,900
Total Number of Registered Letters	842
Total ...	41,909

D 2.—Number of Inland Letters, &c., returned to Senders through the Returned Letter Office during 1887.

Paid Letters	17,803
Unpaid Letters	9,503
Registered Letters	842
Letters returned to Foreign Countries	8,595
Letters redirected by the Returned Letter Office to different offices in the Island	724
Illegible and anonymous letters	4,442
Total ...	41,909

D 3.—Number of Letters, &c., finally returned to the Returned Letter Office, Senders not being known, and destroyed.

Paid Letters	2,489
Unpaid Letters	2,326

D 4.—Number of Unregistered Letters, &c., and the Amount of Property found in them.

Number of Letters—138.

	Rs.	c.
Money Orders	858	25
Postage Stamps	7	7
Cheques	6,733	37
Cash	36	37
Drafts	3,352	66
Promissory Notes	2,414	87
Total ...	13,402	59

E 1.—Number of Accounts opened in Post Office Savings Banks in 1887.

Province.	No. of Offices opened.	No. of Accounts opened.	Sinhalese.	Tamil.	Burgher.	European.	Others.
Western	23	781	447	92	137	44	61
Southern	8	263	149	17	63	14	20
Northern	4	46	4	32	7	1	2
Central	25	747	367	179	72	73	56
Eastern	2	35	2	18	7	6	2
North-Western	5	124	73	27	14	3	7
North-Central	1	18	10	4	2	0	2
Uva	4	99	56	22	12	1	8
Total ...	72	2,113	1,108	391	314	142	158

Total on December 31, 1887 ... 6,685 Accounts.

E 2.—Number of Accounts in Post Office Savings Banks on which one or more Deposits were made in 1887.

Deposits.		Deposits.	
One	1,156	Eight	96
Two	810	Nine	84
Three	505	Ten	76
Four	343	Eleven	53
Five	257	Twelve	60
Six	166	Over twelve	143
Seven	125		

E 3.—Total Amount deposited in, and Deposits withdrawn from, the Post Office Savings Banks by each Nationality.

	Deposits. Rs.	c.	Withdrawals. Rs.	c.
Sinhalese	69,027	50	47,624	27
Tamil	34,253	50	23,540	85
Burgher	25,806	75	18,477	71
European	13,151	0	12,494	28
Others	10,197	0	7,124	15
Total ...	152,435	75	109,261	26

	Rs.	c.		
Deposits on December 31, 1886 ...	153,351	25		
Deposits as above ...	152,435	75		
Interest allowed to Depositors ...	3,173	42		
Withdrawals cancelled ...	2,837	33	311,797	75
Withdrawals on December 31, 1886 ...	73,361	16		
Withdrawals as above ...	109,261	26	182,622	42
		Balance ...	129,175	33

E 4.—Number of Withdrawals from Post Office Savings Banks in 1887 by each Nationality.

Sinhalese	1,784
Tamil	616
Burgher	749
European	154
Others	280
Total .	3,583

E 5.—Number of Single Deposits in Post Office Savings Banks.

	Sinhalese.	Tamil.	Burgher.	European.	Others.
Under Rs. 1	75	24	28	3	8
" 2	115	25	53	17	17
" 3	73	12	24	2	11
" 4	23	5	10	4	2
" 5	7	6	2	1	2
" 10	81	33	31	12	11
" 15	57	25	16	16	4
" 20	17	11	5	2	3
" 30	34	15	11	6	6
" 40	26	7	6	4	1
" 50	7	5	2	2	4
Over Rs. 50	63	42	8	20	14
Total ...	578	210	196	89	83

[*For* F 1 *see next page.*]

F 2.—Classified Abstract of Offices maintained by the Postal Department on December 31, 1887.

Name of Offices.	Departmental Offices open for Paid Messages.			Other Offices.	
	Departmental Ordinary.	Postal Combined	Total.	Railway Administration.	Telephone Administration.
Anurdáhapura	—	1	1	—	—
Alagalla ...	—	—	—	1	—
Ambépussa	—	—	—	1	—
Badulla ...	—	1	1	—	—
Batticaloa	—	1	1	—	2
Balani ...	—	—	—	1	—
Bambalapitiya	—	—	—	1	—
Colombo	1	—	1	1	2
Dikoya	—	1	1	—	—
Dambulla	—	1	1	—	—
Galle ...	—	1	1	—	—
Galkissa	—	1	1	—	—
Gampola	—	1	1	1	—
Galboḍa	—	—	—	1	—
Hatton	—	1	1	1	—
Henaratgoḍa	—	—	—	1	—
Jaffna	—	1	1	—	—
Kandy	—	1	1	1	—
Kurunégala	—	1	1	—	—
Kaḍugannáwa	—	—	—	1	—
Kaḍigomuwa	—	—	—	1	—
Kalutara	—	1	1	1	—
Koṭagala	—	—	—	1	—
Kaṭugastoṭa	—	—	—	1	—
Kęlaniya	—	—	—	1	—
Lunugala	—	1	1	—	—
Mannár	—	1	1	—	—
Mahara	—	—	—	1	—
Matalé	—	1	1	1	—
Mirigama	—	—	—	1	—
Mount Lavinia	—	—	—	1	—
Moraṭuwa	—	1	1	1	—
Nuwara Eliya	—	1	1	—	—
Náwalapiṭiya	—	1	1	1	—
Nánu-oya	—	1	1	1	—
Negombo	—	1	1	—	—
Polgahawela	—	1	1	1	—
Péráḍeniya	—	—	—	1	—
Panaduré	—	—	—	1	—
Rambukkana	—	—	—	1	—
Talawakęlé	—	1	1	1	—
Trincomalee	—	1	1	—	—
Ukuwala	—	—	—	1	—
Véyangoḍa	—	—	—	1	—
Wádduwa	—	—	—	1	—
Waṭawala	—	—	—	1	—
Waṭagoḍa	—	—	—	1	—
Wattégama	—	—	—	1	—
Wilson's Bungalow	—	1	1	—	—
Total	1	25	26	34	4

F 3.—Distribution Return of Lines completed to December 31, 1887.

Sections.	Departmental Property in joint use, miles of.	Departmental use only, miles of.			Railway property maintained by Postal Department, miles of.		Railway subsidised, miles of.		Miscellaneous, miles of.		Total, miles of.		
	Posts.	Posts.	Wire.	Cable.	Posts.	Wire.	Posts.	Wire.	Posts.	Wire.	Posts.	Wire.	Cable.
Colombo to Kandy ...	74·25	1·43	151·39	—	—	—	—	161·03	—	—	75·68	312·42	—
Kandy to Mátalé ...	16·78	·50	34·56	—	—	—	—	16·78	—	—	17·28	51·34	—
Mátalé to Anurádhapura ...	—	70·25	146·75	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	70·25	146·75	—
Rambęwa Junction to Tallaly Junction ...	—	65·00	130·00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	65·00	130·00	—
Tallaly Junction to Mannár ...	—	2·84	7·66	·90	—	—	—	—	—	—	2·84	7·66	·90
Mannár to Tallamannár ...	—	17·50	34·50	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	17·50	34·50	—
Tallaly Junction to Jaffna ...	—	65·16	65·16	2·00	—	—	—	—	—	—	65·16	65·16	2·00
Anurádhapura to Trincomalee	—	63·50	63·50	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	63·50	63·50	—
Polgahawela to Kurunęgala ...	—	12·00	12·50	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12·00	12·50	—
Kandy to Gampola ...	7·75	—	11·75	—	—	—	—	11·50	—	—	7·75	23·25	—
Gampola to Náwalapiṭiya ...	8·76	—	8·86	—	—	—	—	8·86	—	—	8·86	17·72	—
Náwalapiṭiya to Hatton ...	15·86	—	15·86	—	—	—	—	15·86	—	—	15·86	31·72	—
Hatton to Dikoya ...	—	3·25	5·76	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3·25	5·76	—
Hatton to Nánu-oya ...	12·00	—	12·00	—	—	—	4·14	15·72	—	—	16·14	27·72	—
Nánu-oya to Nuwara Eliya ...	—	4·36	9·72	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4·36	9·72	—
Nuwara Eliya to Badulla ...	—	27·00	27·00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	27·00	27·00	—
Badulla to Batticaloa ...	—	93·65	94·90	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	93·65	94·90	—
Colombo to Kalutara ...	1·25	26·62	27·87	—	25·67	27·42	—	—	—	—	53·54	55·29	—
Kalutara to Galle ...	—	46·22	46·22	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	46·22	46·22	—
Colombo to Negombo ...	—	15·50	32·50	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	15·50	32·50	—
Time Signal Wire, Colombo Office to Master Attendant's Office	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	·20	·20	·20	·20	—
Telephone Lines.													
Colombo Office to Postmaster-General's residence ...	—	1·75	1·75	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·75	1·75	—
Colombo Office to Assistant Postmaster-General's residence	—	1·25	1·25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1·25	1·25	—
Batticaloa Customs to the Bar	1·25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3·20	4·45	4·45	4·45	—
Total ...	138·00	517·78	941·46	2·90	25·67	27·42	4·14	229·75	3·40	4·65	688·99	1203·28	2·90

G.—Number of Employés in the Postal-Telegraph Department during 1886 and 1887.

1886.		1887
1	Postmaster-General and Director of Telegraphs	1
3	Assistant Postmaster-General	3
1	Superintendent of Telegraphs	1
1	Assistant Superintendent of Telegraphs	1
65	Clerks	79
19	Postmasters in charge of Telegraph Offices	29
22	Signallers	20
2	Cashiers	2
2	Relieving Postmasters	6
102	Postmasters	104
12	Assistant Postmasters...	12
3	Storekeepers	3
2	Inspectors of Telegraphs	2
2	Sub-Inspectors of Telegraphs	2
4	Inspectors of Postmen	4
16	Sorters	16
14	Receiving Officers	30
3	Bookbinders	3
6	Supervisors of Mails	5
35	Linemen	35
179	Postmen and Messengers	80
6	Office Coolies	10
1	Batteryman	1
23	Probationers	29

REGISTRATION.

REPORT OF THE REGISTRAR-GENERAL OF LANDS FOR 1887.

INTRODUCTION.

THE duties of the Registrar-General of Lands relate chiefly to the registration of deeds affecting immovable property under the Ordinances 8 of 1863 and 3 of 1865, pending the bringing into operation of the Ordinance 5 of 1877 touching the registration of titles to land; the registration of deeds affecting movable property under the Ordinances 8 of 1871 and 21 of 1871; the supervision of notaries under the Ordinance 2 of 1877; the protection of the revenue derived from the stamps affixed to deeds on execution and for the purpose of registration under the Ordinances 23 of 1871, 13 of 1881, and 43 of 1884; and the general administration of the Department as carried on in its seventeen* offices in various parts of the Island.

I propose to report upon the work of the year under the following heads:—I., Registration of Deeds; II., Notaries; III., Revenue and Expenditure; IV., Administration; V., Registration of Titles to Land.

I.—REGISTRATION OF DEEDS.

The number of deeds registered in 1887 by the Department was 41,320; in 1886, 40,039; showing an increase of 1,281 deeds. (Appendix I.)

The total value of stamp duty levied for registration in 1887 was Rs. 78,038·50, in 1886 Rs. 79,421·50, showing a decrease of Rs. 1,383. (Appendix I.) Thus the transactions registered in 1887, though more numerous than in 1886, were of less value.

The average registration stamp on each deed was Rs. 1·88, as against Rs. 1·97 in 1886. The average value of the transactions registered was between Rs. 100 and Rs. 250.

Of deeds affecting immovable property, 32,416 out of 40,796, or about three-fourths (as in previous years), bore registration stamps of the value of one rupee, which shows that about 75 per cent. of such transactions registered in the office were of the value of Rs. 100 and under. (Appendix III.) The highest registration stamp received on any deed was Rs. 270 (representing a transaction of the value of Rs. 270,000), as against Rs. 680 in 1886.

As usual, conveyances (by sale, gift, &c.) formed over half the number of transactions registered affecting land, mortgages more than a third. (Appendix II.)

The total amount secured by mortgages registered in 1887 was Rs. 9,586,932·82½, and in 1886 Rs. 10,314,914·29, showing a diminution of Rs. 727,981·46½

The total value of properties transferred by sale, gift, &c., registered in 1886 was Rs. 9,117,526·16, in 1887 Rs. 8,374,979·22½, showing a diminution of Rs. 742,546·93½. (Appendix I.)

Progress of Registration in Ceylon.

I append a statement showing, as far as can be ascertained, the approximate number of deeds executed and of deeds registered in each district of the Island yearly since the establishment of the Department in 1864, and the proportion of the number registered to the number executed. (Appendix VIII.) This ratio has risen from 13·2 in 1864 to 28·9 in 1887 for all Ceylon. It will be noted that in 1872 the percentage rose to 21·3, though in the next preceding and following years it stood at 14·6 and 16·7. The disturbing cause appears to have been mainly the large influx in the offices of the Western Province of old deeds, sannases, &c. (bearing date on or before February 1, 1840), registered under the Ordinances 6 of 1866 and 15 of 1867, to carry out which Ordinances no serious attempt was made till 1872, and then mainly in the Western Province. The percentage rose to its highest point (31·9) in 1884, which was due to an abnormal number of deeds tendered for registration in view of the increase of registration stamp duties proposed, but not carried, in the Legislative Council that year. The number of deeds registered in 1864 was 15,841; in 1874, 26,447; in 1884 (abnormal year), 48,774; in 1887, 41,320; the percentage being 13·2, 17·2, 31·9, and 28·9, respectively.

On the whole, therefore, considering that registration is not compulsory, the progress made in it is satisfactory. Its advantages appear to be more widely appreciated as the decisions of the Supreme Court on the effect of registration are more generally known.

The earliest important decision was, I believe, that of Chief Justice Creasy in 1873 (C. R. Galle, 151, 2 Grenier, Part 2, page 6). He said: "It appears to me that, according to this Ordinance, when the defendant registered his mortgage [of May, 1871] on June 7, 1871, the plaintiff's deed [of December 29, 1866], being then unregistered, was a nullity as against the defendant's registered deed. I think, also, that no subsequent registration by the plaintiff could give plaintiff's deed validity, except subject to the priority which the defendant had already obtained. Such appears

* Western Province:—1 Colombo, 2 Kalutara, 3 Negombo, 4 Ratnapura; North-Western Province:—5 Kurunégala, 6 Chilaw; Central Province:—7 Kandy; Province of Uva:—8 Badulla; North-Central Province:—9 Anurádhapura; Northern Province:—10 Jaffna, 11 Mannár, 12 Mullaittívu, 13 Vavuniya-Viláṇkulam; Eastern Province:—14 Batticaloa, 15 Trincomalee; Southern Province:—16 Galle, 17 Mátara and Tangalla.

to me to be the most natural meaning of this somewhat confused and ill-worded clause [section 39 of Ordinance 8 of 1863]; and this opinion is much strengthened by a consideration of the purpose of the Legislature in this matter, and by considering which interpretation will effectuate that purpose and which would thwart it. The clear object of the Legislature was to protect honest purchasers and creditors. A man, when asked to advance money to another, looks naturally to ascertain what are the borrower's means of payment. If he finds that the borrower is the ostensible owner of any landed property, he naturally searches the register to see what, if any, incumbrances there are on it. If the register shows no incumbrances, he advances his money on a deed which he carefully registers, and thinks himself safe, as he ought to be, and as he will be, according to the construction which I put on the Ordinance. But if some other man has got a stale old deed of incumbrance in his pocket, which the register does not reveal, and this stale old incumbrance is only suddenly registered when the debtor is about to be sold up, and if this stale deed were then to be allowed to override the deed registered before it, the whole system of registration would be turned from a security into a mockery and a snare, and encouragement would be given to frauds which the law specially desired to prevent."

In D. C. Kandy, 67,295 (Ráma-Náthan, 1877, 198) the Supreme Court held that a mortgage styling itself a secondary mortgage and taken with notice *aliunde* of a primary mortgage, but not reciting it, gained priority over the primary mortgage by earlier registration. Where, however, the later mortgage was expressly limited to the excess of the mortgaged property over the amount of a recited prior mortgage, prior registration was held not to confer priority on the later encumbrance (D. C. Jaffna, 5,691; 2 S. C. C. 146). In Silva *v.* Sarahami (Wendt, 1883, 384-5) the Supreme Court said: "When an owner of land conveys it to A for value, and subsequently executes another conveyance of the same land in favour of B, also for value, it is true at the date of the second conveyance the owner has nothing left in him to convey; but by the operation of the Ordinance B's conveyance overrides A's if registered before it. Unless the Ordinance has this effect, it has none at all, and this seems the actual construction of the enactment." In the latest reported case decided in August, 1887 (8 S. C. C. 113, Kanavadipillai *v.* Velupillai), the Judges were not agreed, and Chief Justice Burnside explained the effect of the judgment of the majority of the court to be that "if at a sale a creditor purchases a debtor's interest, which subject to an unregistered mortgage of £5,000 was worth £5, he might by an immediate act of registration convert the conditional sale into an absolute one of property worth £5,005, and also defeat a right subject to which he purchased and obtained the conveyance which he registers." The magic of registration could not have been more forcibly pointed out. No wonder that cautious persons should be anxious to register their deeds.

Udaiyárs' Schedules.

The number of deeds executed in Jaffna district is higher than in even the districts of Colombo or Kandy, the average for the last twenty-four years being, Colombo, 22,978; Kandy, 22,521; Jaffna, 24,588.

But the number of registered deeds in Jaffna is remarkably low. The average percentage of registered deeds to the number executed during the last twenty-four years is as low as 2·5 in Jaffna to 21·7 in Colombo, 24·8 in Kandy, and 21·7 in the whole Island.

This is the result of the Udaiyárs' schedule system, which is peculiar to the Jaffna district and founded upon old custom.

According to the "Tésavalamai," a digest prepared in 1706 under orders of the Dutch Government by Claas Isaaks, the Dissáva or chief official of the Jaffna Province, and revised by twelve Tamil chiefs, of the ancient customs of the Tamil inhabitants of the Province, any one who wanted to sell a piece of land was obliged to give notice to his heirs, partners, mortgagees, and adjoining landowners and others who claimed, or had, or might have, the right of preëmption, in order to enable them to exercise that right. One month's notice was required to be given to those who resided in the village, three months' notice to residents in another village, six months to those out of the Province, twelve months to those out of the Island. It does not appear how the notice was given: probably it was by beat of tom-tom in the village. If no objection was raised within the period prescribed, the sale was to be considered valid. This custom* was modified by order of the Dutch Governor Bloem, who required publication of sale to be made on three successive Sundays in the church to which the sellers belonged.

About 1806 the present custom appears to have been introduced, according to which a seller of land, instead of noticing those who had the right of preëmption or giving notice in the church, is obliged to apply to the Udaiyár. This headman is supposed to make publication three times by beat of tom-tom at intervals of eight days, and if no objection be made to him, and if he is himself aware of none, he grants, on payment of certain fees, a schedule (*i. e.*, a certificate of publication) and an extract from the Dutch thombo registers. According to some, the custom applied only to sales of land; according to others, to sale and oṭṭi;† according to others still, to any transaction affecting land.

The schedule has been regarded in Jaffna as far more important than registration and as rendering registration unnecessary. The percentage of registered to executed deeds did not exceed ·5 per cent. in the first eight years after the Ordinance 8 of 1863 came into operation, and then remained

* There appears to have been a similar custom in some parts of Holland and Germany. (Grotius, Introduction to the Law of Holland, 3, 16, *Jus retractus;* Van Leuwen, Roman-Dutch Law, 4, 18, 4 *et seq.;* Voet ad Pandectas, 18, 3, 12 *et seq.*) If the Jaffna custom had been borrowed from it, the compiler of the "Tésavalamai" would have mentioned it as he has mentioned the modification of the custom by Governor Bloem. It is more likely that the custom was introduced into Jaffna from India by the first Tamil settlers, and was, like the Dutch custom, a relic of the jealousy with which the ancient village communities strove to keep strangers out of their precincts. Pothier's explanation (Traité des Retraits, 1, 1, 1, 6) that such customs are founded on the attachment of fathers of families to their lands and their desire to prevent the lands from going outside the family, would apply only to the *jus retractus gentilitium*, or, as he would call it, *le droit de retrait lignager*, which protects only blood relations of the vendor. The rule which Governor Bloem introduced as to the mode and place of notice is similar to that which existed in Normandy, where custom required the publication of the sale to be made "un jour de dimanche à la porte de l'église paroissiale du lieu où l'héritage est situé, à l'issue de la messe de paroisse, dont acte doit être dressé par le curé, vicaire, sergent ou tabellion, et signe par quatre témoins." (Pothier, *ibid*, 1, 7, 226.)

† *I. e.*, "mortgage of lands on condition that they be possessed by the mortgagee, and that the profits thereof should be enjoyed by him instead of the interest of his money."—*Tésavalamai.*

at about 1 per cent. till 1879, when, in consequence of a judgment of the Supreme Court giving priority to a subsequent deed, because registered, the percentage at once rose to 8·7 per cent. The subsequent conflict of Supreme Court decisions has reduced the percentage till now it is 6·8 per cent.

In 1852 Chief Justice Oliphant asked (Toussaint *v.* Virapatran, Ráma-Náthan, 1843–55, 168), "Is the schedule of any use to any human being except the Udaiyár?" The question may now be repeated with greater force, seeing that the registration of deeds has been since established and been in force for a quarter of a century. Udaiyárs' schedules seem to be quite an unnecessary burden on the people, and to furnish endless opportunities of extortion and fraud to the headmen.

The Ordinance 1 of 1842 was passed at the instance of the late Government Agent, Mr. Dyke, to compel the Udaiyárs to give schedules without unnecessary and vexatious delays and to prescribe the fees payable to the Udaiyárs. However, there are incessant complaints of schedules being irregularly granted or withheld. Cases have arisen of the Udaiyárs giving schedules without publication, or schedules of the same land to more than one person, and colluding with parties to support a false schedule or defeat a true one. Even the interests of the Crown have been prejudiced by Udaiyárs giving false schedules to private parties for Crown lands.

The thombos themselves, having been neglected, have become almost worthless as records. All are defective or mutilated, some have been made away with by headmen, and of others copies have been retained by dismissed headmen, who issue false schedules from them when required. In the discussion raised in the Legislative Council by Sir M. Coomara Swamy in 1873, the Queen's Advocate fully admitted the evils of the system. The present Government Agent of the Northern Province, too, has recommended its abolition. The only difficulty in the way of its abolition appears to be financial. If the headmen are deprived of the schedule fees, Government will have to compensate them otherwise. If schedules were abolished and registration was resorted to in Jaffna at the average rate for Ceylon, the revenue of the Jaffna Land Register Office would probably increase by about Rs. 8,000 a year.

II.—NOTARIES.

I regret that the information collected at the head office leaves much to be desired in point of accuracy and completeness, and that it was not possible to remedy these defects in time for this report.

The number of notaries practising in Ceylon at the end of the year 1887 was 400, whose names, jurisdiction, &c., are given in detail in appendix X. The notaries were distributed as follows :—

Western Province.		
Colombo town and gravets	46	
Colombo district ...	56	
Kalutara do. ...	28	
Negombo do. ...	18	
Ratnapura do. ...	13	
		161
Central Province.		
Kandy district ...	39	
Mátalé do. ...	13	
Kégalla do. ...	6	
Gampola do. ...	5	
Pusselláwa district	1	
Nuwara Eliya district ...	1	
Galagedara do. ...	1	
		66
Northern Province.		
Jaffna district ...	61	
Mannár do. ...	4	
Mullaittívu district ...	0	
Vavuṇiya Vilaṅkulam district	1	
		66
Southern Province.		
Galle district ...	31	
Mátara do. ...	11	
Taṅgalla, including Hambaṇtoṭa district ...	8	
		50
Eastern Province.		
Batticaloa district ...	13	
Trincomalee do. ...	2	
		15
North-Western Province.		
Kurunégala district ...	17	
Chilaw, including Puttalam and Kalpiṭiya districts ...	15	
		32
North-Central Province.		
Nuwarakaláwiya district	—	2
Province of Uva.		
Badulla district ...	—	8
Total number of Notaries practising in Ceylon on December 31, 1887 ...		400

This does not include officials such as District Judges, Commissioners of Requests, Fiscals, &c., who frequently attest deeds.

The number of deeds attested in the year was 142,700, as against 146,817 in 1886. (Appendix VIII.)

The clerks employed in the examination of the duplicates of deeds required by the Ordinance 2 of 1877, section 26, sub-section 11, to be transmitted to the Registrars of Lands, examined 107,210 deeds in 1887, as against 101,563 in 1886 and 76,696 in 1885.

In the course of this examination irregularities were discovered, resulting in the dismissal of seventeen notaries :—four in Kandy; two in each of the following districts: Jaffna, Kalutara, Colombo, and Galle; one in each of the following districts: Batticaloa, Negombo, Mátara, and Kurunégala. The number of notaries dismissed in 1886 was 37; in 1885, 3.

The deficiencies of stamp duty and fines recovered from notaries in 1887 amounted to Rs. 1,938·70, as against Rs. 2,464 in 1886.

The systematic examination of duplicates was begun in 1880 in order to protect the public revenue from the fraud or negligence of notaries who under-stamp deeds, and to enable the Registrar-General to exercise effective supervision over the conduct of notaries according to the intention of the Legislature in passing the Ordinance 2 of 1877. Many incompetent or dishonest notaries have been removed to the great public benefit, and the public exchequer has profited by the recovery of fines and deficiencies from defaulting notaries. Unfortunately, from want of hands the work of examination is not carried out at all in some districts, spasmodically in others, and in those districts in which it is performed vigorously it is greatly in arrears. During this year work has been commenced in two additional offices, Batticaloa and Ratnapura.

Notwithstanding the supervision of notaries by this Department and the cancellation of numerous warrants of notaries, there are still far more notaries than the Island requires, many of

them needy and corrupt. More stringent measures than have hitherto been adopted are necessary to cope with the evil. I would suggest that, at all events in the towns, none but Proctors of the Supreme Court or, in their absence, of District Courts be licensed to practise as notaries. As resident notaries will be required in the rural districts, I would appoint them with greatly restricted territorial jurisdiction—one or two notaries for a small group of villages—strictly prohibiting them from itinerating, as they now often do, in search of work, generally dishonest work. It would of course be difficult to carry out these measures at once owing to vested interests. The rights of notaries now in office have to be considered as well as of those who have been permitted by Government to article themselves in order to become notaries. But it is desirable to have this aim in view and from time to time to take such steps as will facilitate its early attainment.

Licenses to practise as notaries should certainly not be issued except after a searching examination designed to exclude incompetent men. No adequate provision has been made to attain this end in the case of vernacular notaries, though they form the majority of notaries in the Island, and though in the discussions in the Legislative Council on the Ordinance 2 of 1877 special attention was invited to the need for such provision by the late Mr. James Alwis. Many now practising in Sinhalese or Tamil are hardly able to write a few lines grammatically, or even intelligibly; and their deeds are a fruitful source of trouble. Some of these notaries were admitted before any system of examination had been introduced, or under the proviso of section 7 of the Ordinance 2 of 1877, which permits in some cases the ordinary rules as to the admission of notaries to be relaxed. Many, however, were admitted under those rules, which seem to me in no small degree responsible for their inefficiency.

A lad is permitted at the age of eighteen, without any real test of his knowledge or capacity, to article himself as a clerk, and at the end of three years applies to His Excellency the Governor to be admitted a notary. His papers are referred to the Council of Legal Education, who cause him to be examined and report upon him to the Governor, who, if the report is favourable, issues a warrant authorising him to practise as notary. There appear to be no rules regulating the examination, or the studies, of those who seek to practise in the vernacular languages. The duty of setting papers to the candidates is usually assigned to a Proctor of the Supreme Court who is a member of the Council. The examiner is ignorant of the native languages and sets the questions in English. The questions are translated into Sinhalese and Tamil for the benefit of the candidate, whose answers are translated back into English for the benefit of the examiner. This mode of examination is subject to the risk of mistranslation—a grave risk in Ceylon, where interpreters are generally men of indifferent attainments—and involves waste of time and clerical labour, sometimes necessitating great delay in publishing the result of the examination. In the end, the examiner's opinion as to the merit of a candidate must be formed less on the latter's work than on that of the interpreter. The examiner can form no independent opinion as to the candidate's knowledge of the language in which he intends to practise, which knowledge the 4th sub-section of the 7th section of the Ordinance 2 of 1877 specially requires to be tested and reported upon,—a salutary requirement, for a good knowledge and command of the language are hardly less important qualifications for the office of notary than a character for integrity.

Rules should be made to regulate the admission of notaries practising in the Sinhalese and Tamil languages, and to provide for their studies and for an effective examination, preliminary and final, of the candidates. Those found unfit at the preliminary examination should be refused the privilege of articling themselves, so that they might turn in time to some other means of living, instead of spending in vain their time and money during important years of their life in preparing themselves for the notaries' examination. Students should be provided with a simple compendium in the vernacular languages of the law affecting notaries and of precedents of at least the ordinary conveyances to replace the miserable precedents now used by village notaries. It is easier in this way to prevent the admission of unworthy men into the ranks of notaries than to get rid of them when once they have been admitted.

III.—EXPENDITURE AND REVENUE.

The expenditure and revenue of the Department were both less in 1887 than in 1886. The expenditure in 1886 was Rs. 64,829·38, in 1887 Rs. 63,823·56, showing a decrease in 1887 of Rs. 1,005·82. The revenue in 1886 was Rs. 81,885·83, in 1887 Rs. 79,977·20, showing a decrease in 1887 of Rs. 1,908·63.

The reduced expenditure in 1887 was due partly to a saving in salaries consequent on the occurrence of several vacancies, but mainly to less travelling done by the Registrar-General. Inspecting the branch offices is one of the most important duties of the Registrar-General, but my work has been so heavy in Colombo that I have not been able to travel as much as I ought to have done.

The reduced revenue was due chiefly to the reduced value of the transactions registered.

As usual, however, there was an excess of receipts over expenditure in the year, and a net sum of Rs. 16,153·64 was added to the revenue of the Island by this Department.

The statement VII. in the appendix shows the revenue and expenditure of the Department since its establishment in 1864. In the first year of the Department there was naturally more expenditure than revenue, but it is remarkable that even in that year four-fifths of the expenditure was recovered. The excess of expenditure was greatly reduced in the following year, and turned in the two succeeding years to an excess of revenue. But in the years 1868–70 there was again a deficit, owing to the enlargement of the establishment. From 1871, however, there was a steady increase in revenue, which culminated in 1877, when a net profit of Rs. 75,193·85 was realised. From that year there has been, in sympathy with the general depression of trade in the Island, a falling off in the profits, broken, however, in the year 1884, when, owing, as I have already observed, to the anticipated increase of stamp duties, there was a great and sudden rush of deeds in the end of the year, and a consequent increase of revenue. The excess of revenue in 1887 was Rs. 16,153·64. The present year (1888) is likely to yield a larger surplus, as there appears to be every sign of revival of trade and industry in the Island.

Since its establishment in 1864 this Department has added a net profit of Rs. 541,821·27 to the public exchequer.

The number of deeds executed by notaries and others during the year 1887 throughout the Island was 142,700. The number registered was 41,320, leaving 101,380 unregistered deeds, or 71 per cent. If registration were compulsory instead of being optional, the revenue of the Department in 1887 alone (allowing Rs. 1·87½ as the average stamp duty on a deed) would have been increased by about Rs. 200,000, or more than tripled. Allowing for the necessary increase of the clerical staff, the net profit for the year would have been at least Rs. 150,000. This might be taken to be an index of the profits of this Department when the Registration of Titles Ordinance, 5 of 1887, is brought into operation throughout the Island, and with it the compulsory registration of deeds under that Ordinance.

But even with optional registration, the profit would be much larger if some important sources of revenue were utilised. For instance, when the consideration of a deed is given in sterling money the stamps on the deed are calculated under the Ordinance 8 of 1880 as if ten rupees were the equivalent of one pound sterling. The result has been a loss to the revenue—a loss likely to increase with the rapid depreciation of silver. There appears to be no hardship in calling upon parties to pay the stamp dues on the equivalent of the sterling money at the rate of exchange on the day the deed was executed, *i. e.*, on the actual consideration of the deed. The persons who deal in pounds sterling are generally wealthy men. They would not feel the increase, and are certainly better able to pay than the vast majority of those who register deeds in Ceylon and who have to pay stamp dues calculated on the actual consideration.

Another class of persons who appear to me to be rather tenderly treated in the matter of registration duties are the Government renters. Between the years 1868 and 1882 bonds granted by them in favour of the Crown were registered at the expense of the obligees. They scarcely felt the charge, which was too insignificant to enter into their calculations. But since July 1, 1882, these bonds have been exempted from registration duty on the advice of the then Queen's Advocate (overruling that of his predecessors), that such bonds need not be registered, and that if it was desired on behalf of the Crown to register them, no duty was legally demandable from the Crown. I venture to doubt if the reason given justifies the change of practice. In similar transactions between private parties it is the invariable rule for the obligees to bear the stamp expenses inclusive of registration duty. The registration of the bonds is thus effected at the expense of the debtor for the protection of the creditor and the information of the public. In the case of bonds granted to the Crown their registration is not, of course, needed in the interests of the Crown. With or without registration, its rights are secure. Registration is needed, however, to protect the public in their dealings with Crown debtors. Unless information is available at the Land Register Office as to the claims of the Crown, innocent persons will be exposed to irreparable damage at the hands of its debtors. It is not therefore unreasonable for the Crown to require its obligees to bear the expenses of registration. The charge, while so insignificant that it would be scarcely felt by them, would bring in an additional yearly revenue of at least Rs. 4,000, the loss in the five years from July 1, 1882, being Rs. 20,400.

In certain districts, such as Kégalla, the people would gladly avail themselves of the advantages of registration, and there would be a consequent gain to the revenue if the Land Register Office was within reasonable distance. For the purpose of land registration the Kégalla district is arbitrarily divided into three parts, which are assigned to the Land Register Offices of Kandy, Kurunégala, and Ratnapura. Persons wishing to register deeds are compelled to travel from ten to forty-eight miles to Kandy, from ten to twenty-eight miles to Kurunégala, from twelve to forty-eight miles to Ratnapura. They have to make special journeys for the purpose, unlike the people of most other districts in the Island, who have the opportunity of registering their deeds in the chief towns of their respective districts when called thither in the ordinary course of their business at the Kachchéri or Courts. The need of a Land Register Office has been pressed upon Government frequently since 1874, but financial considerations prevented the Government from supplying the want. The district has, in recent years, grown in importance, and the want has become more pressing. I have submitted a proposal to Government to establish an office at Kégalla without any addition to the votes of my establishment, and the proposal is now under consideration.* The inhabitants of Taṇgalla and Hambaṇṭota, who have to bring their deeds to Mátara for registration, and the inhabitants of Puttalam and Kalpiṭiya, who have to bring their deeds to Chilaw, also labour under similar hardships, which should, if possible, be relieved.

IV.—ADMINISTRATION.

Departmental Changes.

At the end of March, 1887, Mr. J. H. De Saram, the Registrar-General, proceeded to England on leave, and I assumed duties. He returned in October and was appointed Special Commissioner for the Registration of Titles to Land, an important but long-neglected work, of which I shall speak later on.

In November the Department lost the services of the Assistant Registrar-General, Mr. B. E. Alvis, who had been connected with it for a quarter of a century, from the date of its establishment. He was compelled by ill-health and advancing years to retire on pension, closing a meritorious career of forty-five years in the Public Service. The value of his services in organising and carrying on the Department of Land Registration, as well as the Department of Registration of Births, Marriages, and Deaths, cannot be overrated, and has been repeatedly acknowledged by successive Registrar-Generals.

The too frequent changes of the Head of the Department, his want of familiarity with the details of its business, the burden of other and conflicting duties imposed upon him in recent years, rendered effective supervision of the Department by the Registrar-General impossible, and threw a great strain of work on Mr. Alvis. But for his high character, ability, and unrivalled experience, the Department would have suffered even more than it has. During the few months I had the pleasure of working with him I was much struck with the admirable manner in which, amid great physical pain, he discharged his duties, and I am greatly indebted to him for help and advice. The rules and regulations, published in the early years of the Land Department for the regulation of its business, became long ago obsolete, but were not replaced by new ones. The Department of

* The proposal has since been sanctioned and the office is to be opened on July 2 next.

Marriages, Births, and Deaths does not appear to have ever had any rules worthy of the name. In this unfortunate state of things Mr. Alwis' experience was useful beyond measure, and has been much missed since his retirement. He was a storehouse of all the precedents by which the business of the two Departments was regulated—precedents buried in many volumes without any digest or clue to them. I have taken steps to collect, digest, and index all the precedents, with a view to the publication of rules and regulations for the guidance of both the Departments.

Mr. Alwis was succeeded by Mr. W. H. P. De Saram, Registrar of Lands, Galle, and the following are the other changes that have occurred in the year among the District Registrarships :—

Mr. R. G. Anthonisz appointed Registrar of Lands, Galle.
Mr. J. B. Meerwald appointed Registrar of Lands, Kurunégala.
Mr. W. L. W. Ludekens appointed Registrar of Lands, Kalutara.
Mr. R. H. Pereira appointed Registrar of Lands, Mátara.
Mr. C. Gunatilaka appointed Registrar of Lands, Negombo.
Mr. D. S. Jayatilaka appointed Registrar of Lands, Ratnapura.

Considerable changes have also occurred in the clerical staff of the Department in consequence of irregularities discovered in the year, necessitating the dismissal or reduction of several officers. Probably since the establishment of the Department there has not been such a run of promotion, nor so many changes in its *personnel* and methods as in the year 1887. The irregularities were connected with the business of registration of deeds, chiefly in the Head Office.

Discovery of Irregularities, and Improvements effected.

The course of business in the Colombo Land Register Office (which consisted of a head clerk, six registering clerks, four notes of registration clerks, an indexing clerk, and a day-book clerk) was as follows :—Parties tendering deeds for registration handed them with the necessary stamps to the head clerk, who passed them on to the day-book clerk, who numbered the deeds consecutively and entered them in his day-book, duly cancelling the stamps. A receipt for the deeds and stamps was signed by the head clerk in duplicate, one filed in the office and the other delivered by the day-book clerk to the party.

The head clerk issued the deeds to the registering clerks for registration according to the order in which the deeds were received in the office, unless on special application the Registrar-General permitted a deed to be registered out of its turn. Six deeds were issued every day, except on Saturdays, to each of the six registering clerks, the head clerk at the same time entering in each clerk's weekly report book the date of issue, the day-book number of each deed issued, the notarial number of the deed, and the value of the registration stamps affixed.

The registering clerk began by searching the indexes and registers for previous incumbrances and alienations, if any, affecting the lands dealt with in the deeds, in order to ascertain whether the lands had been previously registered, and thus to determine whether a new folio of the register, or one already existing, was the proper place for the entry. The work of searching sometimes involves great labour, as there are 259 volumes of registers in the Colombo District (each volume containing 400 folios) and 79 volumes of indexes. Having found the right volume and folio or folios to register the deed, the clerk enters in them an abstract of each deed as many times as there are lands affected by the deed. In order to enable his work to be checked, he notes in his weekly report book, opposite the number of each deed, the division, volume, and folio in which it was registered and the number of entries made in respect of the deed.

It was expected that, as a rule, the six deeds delivered to a clerk should be registered by him on the day of issue, and that at least 30 deeds of 45 entries, the minimum fixed under a penalty by departmental regulation, should be registered by a clerk in a week. It may at times happen that from various causes—such as the large number of lands affected by a deed, or of the previous registrations of the lands, the length of time taken in searching for previous incumbrances, or the need of explanation from the notary or the parties—the deed remains in the clerk's hands for a few days before he completes its registration. In every such case it is the head clerk's duty to take the necessary steps to expedite the registration of such deeds. When the clerk had entered the deeds in the proper folios of the registers, and had duly filled up in his weekly report book the division, volume, and folio of registration, the deed, together with the folios, was taken by the peons to the table of the Assistant Registrar-General, who signed them as he found time, and sent them to the day-book clerk, who transcribed into the day-book, opposite the number of each deed, the division, volume, and folio as recorded by the registering clerk on the face of the deed, and kept the deed till called for by the party who tendered it for registration.

The head clerk is required to check the work of the clerks, to see that the deeds have been registered as entered by them in their weekly report books, to prevent accumulation of deeds in their hands, and, after comparing and verifying the weekly report books and the day-book, to submit weekly to the Registrar-General a return showing the number of deeds registered by each clerk in the week and the number remaining unregistered in the office.

It is the duty of the index clerk to index all the entries made in the registers by the registering clerks, and to keep the index posted up to date, so as to facilitate the search for previous incumbrances and alienations affecting any particular land. These indexes are arranged according to the names of the proprietors and of the lands, and are called respectively Nominal and Local Indexes : it would be more correct to call the former Personal Indexes. The head clerk is required to check weekly the number of entries made by the index clerk and to submit returns to the Registrar-General.

Under the 37th and 40th sections of the Ordinance 8 of 1863 copies of all registrations effected in the branch offices are required to be kept in the Colombo Office. Such copies were kept for a short time after the Ordinance came into operation, but were discontinued for several years till, in July, 1885, His Excellency the Governor ordered them to be resumed. From that time copies have been kept in the form called "Notes of Registration." Fourteen clerks were added to the staff of the Department, of whom four were attached to the Colombo Office to index the notes prepared by the other ten in the branch offices and transmitted to this office.

The whole business of registration of deeds in Colombo, as summarised above, was in charge of the head clerk, and he was responsible for the efficient transaction of the business in that

Department. As far as I could ascertain, he was allowed to carry on the work as he pleased without efficient supervision. So vaguely were the duties of the different officers defined that the Assistant Registrar-General exercised little or no control over this branch of the Department. The Registrar-General himself has no opportunity of ascertaining the business done in the Colombo Land Register Office except from the weekly returns submitted to him by the head clerk. None of my predecessors appears to have ever doubted their accuracy, or thought it necessary to check them, or personally to examine the work of the subordinate clerks. The Registrar-General, however much he may desire to do so, cannot supervise the Colombo Office efficiently. He is in charge of not only the registration of lands, but of the registration of births, marriages, and deaths throughout the Island. The amalgamation of the office of the Fiscal, Western Province, with his own has greatly increased the burden of his duties and responsibilities. He has periodically to be absent from Colombo on inspection duty. When he is in Colombo his time and attention are divided between the Registrar-General's Office, the Fiscal's Office, and the Hulftsdorp Prison, of which he is Superintendent. During the short time in the day that he remains in the Registrar-General's Office he is obliged, owing to the structural deficiencies of the building, to occupy a corner room quite out of sight of his subordinate officers and has barely time to get through the work submitted to him.

Soon after I assumed duties at the end of March last, I began to spend some time with the clerks in order to instruct myself in the details of the business done in the office. But I was unable to devote to this purpose the time and attention it deserved, owing to my having to keep pace with current work of a pressing nature and to unavoidable absence from Colombo on inspection duty. My inquiries as to the progress of business in the office were met by frequent assurances from the head clerk that it was most satisfactory and that, though in the early part of the year, owing to the great influx of deeds, it had taken weeks and even months to complete the registration of a deed, deeds were now registered and ready for delivery within a few days of the time of their receipt in the office. Early in June I began to suspect that business was not progressing as satisfactorily as he would have me believe, and I determined to make a surprise inspection of each clerk's work. As important business at the Fiscal's Office was pressing upon my attention and engaging a great part of my time, I was unable to carry on my inspection continuously from day to day or with that care and thoroughness which I should have wished. Much therefore must have escaped my notice, and while one clerk's work was being examined the others had time to conceal their delinquencies, if any.

The weekly report book of one of the registering clerks, A....., showed in his hands, on June 2, 47 deeds unregistered out of 59 deeds issued to him from May 16. He ought never to have been allowed to have more than 6 deeds in his hands unregistered. The head clerk had gone on issuing deeds to him for registration without inquiring whether the clerk had completed the deeds already issued, or looking at his weekly report book, the blank spaces in which would have shown at a glance that the clerk was considerably in arrears. During the fourteen working days from May 16 to June 2 (both days inclusive), he ought at least to have registered 70 deeds. He actually registered only 12 deeds, equivalent to nearly two and a half days' work, representing a loss to the public through inefficient supervision of at least eleven days' labour in a fortnight taken at random.

Of the 12 deeds registered by him, some had been registered out of their turn before other deeds delivered to him several days previously. He was not able to give any satisfactory reason why he did not register them according to the order in which they were delivered to him. One of such deeds was issued to him on May 25. It was registered by him, signed by the Assistant Registrar-General, and returned on the 28th to the party who brought the deed. His weekly report book showed 20 deeds given to him prior to it, some as far back as May 16, still unregistered on June 2. Curiously enough in that book there was against the deed a small asterisk. It is probable that the clerk was stimulated to unwonted activity by the offer of reward from the party who wanted the deed registered. Examining this clerk's weekly report book for many months back, I noticed similar suspicious asterisks occurring frequently.

The examination of the work of another clerk, S....., revealed worse irregularities. In his drawer I found 96 unregistered deeds, and 13 more in other parts of the office, making in all 109 unregistered deeds out of 230 that, according to his weekly report book, had been issued to him from March 7 up till his last working day. Even if he had registered all the 230 deeds, he would have registered 143 less than the departmental rule required. But he actually registered only 121 deeds, representing less than twenty-four and a half days' work, and deprived the public of forty-three and a half days' work in sixty-eight working days, or two days' work out of three. As in A.....'s case, the head clerk had gone on issuing deeds without inquiring how many had been completed, or looking at his weekly report book, which would have shown 37 deeds unregistered. The remaining 72 the clerk had, in order to conceal his idleness, actually entered in his weekly report book as registered, noting even the division, volume, and folio of registration as usual, though in point of fact not one of them had been registered and they were lying unregistered in his drawers. But those were all blindly included by the head clerk, as registered, in the weekly returns submitted to the Registrar-General, which were based on the convenient assumption that every deed issued to the clerk for registration was actually registered. This was carried to such an extent that the last return submitted by the head clerk till then showed that at the end of April the total number of deeds remaining unregistered in the office was 18, whereas in reality in the hands of one clerk alone there were nearly a hundred. Among the deeds registered by the clerk S..... I noticed, as in A.....'s case, that deeds had been registered out of their turn before deeds issued to him several days previously, and there were the same suspicious asterisks that attracted my attention in A.....'s books.

Of the deeds shown in the clerks' books as registered, some were not to be found for two or three days, and then only after a vigorous search instituted by my order. It was stated to be the custom of the office, that after a clerk had entered a deed in the proper folio of the register he left the deed in the register to be taken by any peon who chose to do so to the Assistant Registrar-General's table, and placed there, it may be, without his knowledge, and that often days elapsed before he signed the deed and register. As many as 207 deeds were awaiting his signature on June 6, most of them, of course, not lying before him, but scattered all over the office. In this interval, as also between the time of his signing them and the deed reaching the day-book clerk, nobody was responsible for

the deed. Any clerk, or even peon, who wished to refer to the volume or section of the volume in which the deed was placed might, without the Assistant Registrar-General's knowledge, remove it, and leave it where he pleased. This laxity and confusion, aggravated by the utter inadequacy of accommodation (of which I shall speak presently) for the enormous mass of records now in the office, afforded abundant facilities for records going adrift, and records were often missed for months, or even lost.

I made immediate arrangements to prevent, so far as the structural deficiencies of the building permitted, a deed received in the office for registration from being lost or mislaid, to enable it to be traced from the time it reached till the time it left the office, and to fix the responsibility for it at every stage of its progress on some particular officer, while at the same time checking the daily work of each registering clerk. Each registering clerk in Colombo and throughout the Island was required by me to submit, and has ever since submitted, daily, a memorandum in this form :—

A.—Daily List of Deeds registered and indexed.

List of Deeds registered and indexed by ———, and submitted to the Registrar for signature on ——— 18—..

Day-Book Number and Date.	Date of issue.	Volume and Folio of Register.	Number of Entries.	Index.		Remarks.	Date of signing by Registrar, and his initials.	Date of return to Head Clerk or Registrar, and his initials.
				Local.	Personal.			
		Total ...						

List of Deeds in Hand.

Day-Book Number and Date.	Date of Issue.	Remarks.

From this form one can tell at once when a deed was received in the office for registration; when it was issued to the registering clerk; when he registered it, and in what folios; when the Assistant Registrar-General signed it, and when it was returned to the head clerk (the day-book will show when it was returned by him to the party); and how many and what deeds remain in any particular clerk's hands unregistered on any particular day. Dilatoriness on the part of any officer can at once be detected. Explanation of it has to be inserted in the "Remarks" column. The deeds, as soon as registered by the clerks, are submitted by themselves personally every day with their lists to the Assistant Registrar-General (or, in outstations, to the District Registrar), who signs them and passes them on with the lists duly initialled and dated to the head clerk, who also initials and dates the lists in acknowledgment of receiving the deeds. No deeds or registers are removed from the Assistant Registrar-General (or District Registrar) before signature, without his special written permission, and without giving him a receipt for the documents. Marked improvement in the mode of doing business immediately followed the introduction of these lists. A deed issued to the registering clerk one morning was registered, signed, and returned to the day-book clerk and was ready for delivery to the party by the following noon, instead of taking weeks and months as before.

Among S.....'s unregistered deeds I found 9 deeds that had been received in the office on the 14th and subsequent days in February, and 38 deeds of March, the greater number of which had been issued to him early in March for registration. These I got entered in the registers by other clerks immediately after my discovery. They were signed on June 13, 14, and 15, with a large number of other deeds, and sent back to the head clerk. The time that elapsed between February 14 and June 14 is, I presume, the time that it took many deeds to be registered in this office, though no doubt the fictitious returns and books of the clerks showed a shorter interval. I learn from Proctor-Notaries and others who had transactions with this office that few deeds were returned registered until repeated applications had been made week after week. Owing chiefly to the delay attending the registration of a deed and to the uncertainty as to when it would be completed, deeds after registration remained in the office for months and years and sometimes were never returned at all.

I found large numbers of deeds, some received in the office several years ago, put aside as "explanation deeds," *i. e.*, deeds in which further information was required, or supposed to be required, before they could be registered. But no steps had been taken to elicit the explanation, nor had a list of them been kept for several years past. It is hard to believe that the parties interested did not appear with a satisfactory explanation in the case of any one of these deeds. They appear to have been relegated to the category of explanation deeds on the registering clerk's own responsibility, and without the knowledge of the head clerk, some of the deeds on purely frivolous grounds. Some "explanation deeds" I found in the clerks' drawers. The deeds had been received in the office six months back and issued to the clerks for registration five months back. If I had not discovered the deeds they would probably have been lying in the clerks' drawers for months more or been mislaid, and the owners would, on applying for them, have been put off on various pretexts and asked to call again and again till they gave up coming through weariness. Some deeds had been received in the office as far back as 1880 and 1881 and had been put aside for "explanation," on the plea that the notary had quoted the folios of previous registration wrongly. When by turning to the folio quoted the clerk found it to be a wrong reference, he should have treated the deed as one bearing no folio mark, to which class belong most of the deeds tendered for registration,

and should have made the usual search for the right folio in the indexes and registers. Instead of this ordinary routine being observed, the deeds had been kept in the office for six or seven years, the parties who brought them with the necessary stamps were deprived of the value of the stamps, had probably to undergo the trouble of frequent trips to the office, and lost the advantage accruing to them under our law from priority of registration and incurred the penalties of non-registration. Other deeds had been put aside on still more frivolous or even false grounds : *e.g.*, that they affected lands in other districts. If this were true, the deeds ought to have been at once returned to the owners to be tendered at the proper office for registration, but in most cases the reason given was untrue.

In the course of further examination I discovered still older and more flagrant cases, in which the deeds had been put aside for absolutely no reason whatever. I got them registered without any difficulty and without the need being felt of any explanation. As ten to fifteen years had elapsed since they were received in the office, it is not surprising that the owners were either dead or could not be traced. I give below the list of these deeds. Why or by whom they were put among explanation deeds, I cannot discover. But it seems clear that "explanation deeds" too often served as a cloak for idleness or incompetence. When a clerk was not disposed to work or found a deed tedious or difficult, he at once flung it among explanation deeds and there was no one to say him nay.

Day-Book No.		Date of Receipt in Office for Registration.		Date when registered.
4,867	...	January 8, 1872	...	September 1, 1887
6,518	...	May 16, 1872	...	do.
9,459	...	October 17, 1872	...	do.
9,703	...	October 28, 1872	...	do.
9,930	...	December 4, 1872	...	September 8, 1887
18,001	...	August 29, 1874	...	September 15, 1887
18,312	...	September 23, 1874	...	September 13, 1887
5,477	...	June 12, 1876	...	September 21, 1887

To prevent such scandals in the future, I have made it a rule of the Department that as soon as a deed is found by the clerk to require explanation it should at once be submitted to the head clerk (or, in outstations, to the Registrar). If the latter is satisfied that it requires explanation, he is to enter it in a list giving the day-book number and date and the nature of explanation required, and to take immediate steps to secure the explanation from the party, such explanation to be obtained from him when he calls for the deeds, as he should be always required to do, on the morning of the third day after delivery of the deed into the office for registration. A weekly return is also required from each office in this form :—

B.—Weekly Return of Deeds registered.

1	2	3	4		5	6
Date.	Name of Clerk.	No. of Deeds issued for Registration.	No. registered in the Week.		Remarks.	Recapitulation.
			Deeds	Entries		
From						Deeds remaining unissued to Registering Clerks on ...
						Issued to Registering Clerks, but not registered before ...
to						Explanation Deeds pending on ...
						Total number of unregistered Deeds on ...
						Received this week for registration :—
						Monday ...
						Tuesday ...
						Wednesday ...
						Thursday ...
						Friday ..
						Saturday ...
						Registered out of Deeds issued this week ..
						Registered out of Deeds issued last week ...
						Registered Explanation Deeds ...
						Total remaining unregistered on ...
	Total ...					

Number of Deeds unregistered on } Remaining unissued in the hands of Day-Book Clerk ...
Issued to Registering Clerks, but not registered ...
Explanation Deeds : Day-Book dates ...
Total ...

Land Register Office, ——— ——— *Registrar.*

There were, from the various causes I have mentioned, on the evening of June 6 last, 476 unregistered deeds in the Colombo office, besides the explanation deeds which had not then been counted. The normal delay in registration was four or five months, though the books and returns of the office told a more flattering tale. Considering the large revenue derived from the registration of deeds and that the whole energies of the Land Registration Department are devoted to this work, it

seemed to me that this state of things was scandalous and that an endeavour ought to be made to secure that deeds should be registered and returned at least on the third day of their receipt in the office. The most experienced men in the Department, however, thought it utterly impracticable.

Ten years ago the delay had already attracted the attention of the Legislative Council as a chronic evil. In the debate then raised, the late Mr. James Alwis called it "an old question," "a crying evil"; and the late Sir Coomara Swamy justly observed that the registration scheme, which was intended to do good and facilitate the transfer of property, had, owing to the delay in returning deeds, become a means of hampering trade and business.

In less than a month I was able to attain my object of being in a position to return deeds registered within three days of their receipt in the office, and the arrears were reduced in the Colombo office from 476 to 8 deeds. This satisfactory state of business, which is without precedent in the history of the Department, has, I am glad to say, been maintained ever since, with the occasional exception of a few days, when, owing to pressure of work, the time taken in registering and returning a deed extended to four or five days. At the same time I was able to reduce the staff of registering and indexing clerks in the Colombo office from seven to three, detaching the others for other work that had been neglected. The reduced number of clerks do accurately and satisfactorily the work previously alleged to overtax the energies of more than double the number.

In forwarding the return called for by Sir Coomara Swamy in the Legislative Council on the occasion of the debate referred to, the then Registrar-General partly attributed the delay in returning the deeds registered to the owners not calling for them. This I found to be the opinion of the Department. On July 8 last I caused a notice to be published in the local papers informing the public that deeds tendered for registration in the Colombo office up to July 6 inclusive were ready for delivery, and requesting the parties who tendered them to apply for them at once and report to me any delay in returning them. Parties tendering deeds since that date are requested to apply for them on the third day after delivery. I do not find any delay on the part of the public in calling for their deeds.

In some of the branch offices there had been for years the same delay in the business of registration that till recently characterised the head office. In Kurunégala the measures taken by me to secure that each clerk did a fair day's work proved not less effective than in the head office. In two and a half months' time the arrears were cleared off, and the number of unregistered deeds was reduced from 603 to 4, and the delay in registering from four months to two days, and two of the registering clerks were temporarily detached for other work in the office. Similar results have been attained in the other offices: *e. g.*, in Kandy, the number of unregistered deeds was reduced from 207 to 4 in one month, and the registering clerks were reduced from six to four.

At the end of the year the business of registration was most satisfactory in those offices which in previous years were habitually in heavy arrears, as will be seen from this statement:—

	Number of Deeds remaining Unregistered on December 31, 1886.	Number of Deeds remaining Unregistered on December 31, 1887.
Colombo	425 ...	17
Kalutara	83 ...	3
Negombo	57 ...	2
Kurunégala... ...	683 ...	6
Chilaw	110 ...	Nil
Mátara / Tangalla	464 ...	Nil
Kandy	394 ...	65*

All the other offices send in Nil returns, except Ratnapura. In that office alone the arrears were nearly as great at the end of the year as at the beginning: 150 deeds on January 1 and 136 on December 31. But the office was in the latter months of the year in great confusion owing to serious irregularities resulting in the dismissal of the Registrar. Permanent arrangements could not be made till February, 1888, immediately after which the arrears were cleared off.

Before the changes I have mentioned were effected, the registration of deeds was not merely delayed, it was done inaccurately. Mistakes in registration are pregnant with serious consequences to the public. Transactions regarding lands are seldom made without reference to our registers, mistakes in which may lull capitalists into a false sense of security and lead them to make investments which may at last prove valueless owing to prior transactions duly registered. One great cause of the inaccuracy of registration was the state of the indexes to the registers. Unless the indexes are accurate and up to date with the registers, the registering clerks must be impeded and misled in the search for previous incumbrances and alienations, and the danger is great of deeds being registered in wrong folios—of deeds affecting one land being registered in different folios as though referring to different lands, or distinct lands being registered as though identical—and irreparable injury may be caused by the mistake. The indexing work, therefore, is of the first importance. The indexes are, as I have said, of two kinds, Local and Personal, being kept according to the names of the lands dealt with in the deeds or of the proprietors. Though special clerks had been set apart for indexing in most offices, this important work was greatly neglected. The Personal indexes were kept in but few offices, and were everywhere in arrears for years. The Local indexes were in arrears for several months. Both indexes were kept carelessly and in a haphazard way, without any appreciation of their importance.

The Local index being far the more important, I caused the arrears in it throughout the Island to be cleared off by giving the indexing clerks the help of such clerks as could be spared from registration work. The indexing clerks were then added to the staff of registering clerks, and each clerk was made to index each deed as he registered it, and to show his indexing work in the daily list referred to in page 103 D. The result of the experiment was most satisfactory. Labour has been economised and a larger number of deeds registered than before, and, more important still, the Local indexes are always up to date with the registers, thus facilitating correct registration and minimising the risk of incorrect and misleading information being given by this Department to persons searching for incumbrances and alienations.

* Received chiefly on the last two or three days in the year.

The arrears in the Personal indexes are, however, so enormous that they cannot be cleared off soon without a special staff of clerks, but as the work is not of such urgency as to justify the employment of special clerks, I employ registering clerks at it when they can be spared from their own work, and meanwhile make each of them index "personally" as well as "locally" the current deeds registered by him. I hope in this way gradually to bring the Personal indexes to the standard of efficiency attained in respect of the Local indexes.

The additional work thus imposed on the clerks who register deeds, of indexing them personally and locally, has not made them register fewer deeds than before. In the Colombo office efficient clerks have, without difficulty, each week registered 75 entries, at the same time indexing them personally and locally, being two-thirds more than the minimum number of entries previously required by departmental regulation to be merely registered—a minimum, however, which, small as it was, was seldom attained. The minimum I now require of all clerks throughout the Island is 60 entries to be registered and indexed "locally" and "personally." The working power of each clerk has thus been almost tripled.

The Notes of Registration work referred to in page 101 D is most of all in arrears. Little or no supervision was exercised over this work in the branch offices or in the head office, nor was any account kept of the work done. The result is, that this work which, under orders of His Excellency the Governor, recommenced in July, 1885, is in arrears in almost every office, in the majority of offices for one or two years. There has been among these clerks an incredible amount of idleness and frittering away of public time. They are now under better supervision, the work is better checked, and each clerk is doing three or four times the amount of work he formerly did ;* but still the arrears are considerable, and it is difficult to say when they will be cleared off. When they are cleared off the notes will be complete from July, 1885. For the preceding twenty-two years there are hardly any notes, those received in the early years of the Department from the branch offices having been mostly lost or destroyed owing to neglect and inadequate accommodation for the records. The Legislature, in requiring copies to be kept in the head office of all registrations effected in the branch offices, intended, no doubt, to provide against loss or destruction of registers and to facilitate reference—objects most desirable to attain, but at present almost wholly defeated. There has been no adequate return for the expenditure of money involved in keeping for this purpose a staff of fourteen clerks throughout the Island.

Amalgamation of the Offices of Registrar-General, Fiscal of the Western Province, and Superintendent of the Hulftsdorp Jail.

In the reorganisation of the head office suitable provision has been made for checking and supervising the work of the branch offices so far as it can be done from the head office. Special clerks have been appointed checking officers, and the form of the returns of work done has been improved. But these measures are inadequate unless the Registrar-General makes frequent inspection visits. He cannot do so now. The pressure of work upon him in the head office in its present stage of transition and reorganisation, and, still more, his duties as Fiscal and as Superintendent of the Hulftsdorp Jail, which require his presence constantly in Colombo, conflict with his duty as inspecting officer. Some of the branch offices have not been visited for two years. Working as hard as I can, I cannot get through my duties to my satisfaction. The consciousness of this, and of the magnitude of the work that remains to be done to make the several Deparments under my control efficient, is a constant source of harassment to me.

The amalgamation of the office of Registrar-General with the offices of Fiscal of the Western Province and Superintendent of the Hulftsdorp Jail was recommended by the Retrenchment Committee of the Legislative Council on the strength of the statement made before them by the Registrar-General, Mr. Charles Liesching, that the post of Registrar-General was not a hard-worked one, and that he could undertake to do the duties of the Fiscal of the Western Province. The recommendation was sanctioned with some misgiving by the Secretary of State, who evidently realised the onerous nature of the Registrar-General's duties. The saving now effected in the pay of the Registrar-General is, I think, outweighed by the neglect of much that ought to be done, and the bad quality of the work that is done, in the Departments under his charge. What I have said about the work of the Land Department has, I trust, made this clear. As I am writing a separate report about the Department of Marriages, Births, and Deaths, I will only say here, that to reduce the work of that Department to order, and to make it an efficient statistical department, is sufficient to occupy the energies of any able and energetic man for some years.

The amalgamation has proved even more injurious in the case of the Fiscal's Department than in the Registrar-General's. In the Fiscal's Department the business is transacted so inefficiently, and, I regret to say, by the officers entrusted with the execution of processes, so corruptly, as to pollute the administration of justice. The Fiscal is himself being constantly involved in heavy pecuniary liabilities, from which he would in great part be free if he were able to exercise efficient supervision over his office. The fees he receives are out of all proportion to his liabilities. It is only fair that a public servant saddled with such an office should be given time and opportunity to protect himself against the grave risks arising from it. It is still more important in the public interests that the duties of his office should not be so heavy as to make it impossible for him to attain that standard of efficiency without which service of all kinds becomes almost a disservice.

Reorganisation of Record Office.

The insecure and chaotic state of the valuable records of the various offices of the Department attracted my attention soon after I assumed duties. It is of little use to prepare and collect records at great expense and labour, if they are not protected from loss, damage, or fraudulent alteration, and kept so as to be available for easy reference. As a matter of fact, the records were scattered over each office and accessible to almost anybody, and no one was responsible for their safe custody. In the Ratnapura office, recently, the Registrar was dismissed from the Public Service for (among other reasons) the inefficient supervision he exercised over his records, whereby he rendered it possible

* I may mention, as an instance, the four Notes of Registration clerks in the Colombo office, who assured me that they could not each do more than 30 entries a day, and who are now doing 125 entries daily.

for a notary to obtain access to a duplicate of his deed filed in the office, and to erase two words in it so as to make it correspond with the erasure which, in collusion with the grantee, in order to defraud certain parties, he had made in the two other originals of the deed. There would have been little difficulty in making a similar erasure in the volume in which the particulars of the deed were registered, the registers being, as a rule, kept even more insecurely than notarial duplicates. A commoner form of fraud that I have discovered in many offices is the removal of whole documents from the files of notaries' duplicates, it being apparently found easier to abstract a document from the file, and destroy it, than to make alterations or erasures in it. Large numbers of deeds I found destroyed or damaged by white-ants, rats, &c. The difficulty of guarding against these evils was chiefly that a special staff of officers was required to be placed in charge of the records, and their appointment would have involved a great increase of expenditure. The improvement effected, in consequence of the changes I have mentioned, in the quality and quantity of the work done in most offices, enabled me to detach officers for the work of reorganising the arrangements touching the records, without extra expense. At the same time, according as vacancies occurred in the Department in offices to which fees for copying records were attached, I formed the fees into a fund, to be devoted to increasing the efficiency of the record room arrangements. I enjoined upon the Registrars the observance of the following rules:—

That all the records should be collected into one or two rooms, which should be provided with doors and locks, and nobody but the record-keeper and his assistant (if any) and the Registrar should be permitted access to the room. When the office consists of one room only, a portion of it should be divided off as the record room.

That the records should be examined and arranged in secure shelves or presses admitting of free ventilation and easy inspection, so as to prevent, or easily detect, damage to the records by insects, rats, &c.

That a list should be made of the existing records and a separate list of the missing records.

That no record should be issued except to the Registrar, or to some person authorised by him in writing, and that on no account should it be removed from the office.

That a day-book should be opened, in which every document issued should be entered and the signature taken of the recipient. No record to be issued unless so entered and signature taken.

That the day-book should be in this form :—

Description of Document.	Date of Issue.	Signature of Person to whom issued.	Date of Return.	Initials of Record-keeper on Return.	Remarks.

That no record should remain out of the record room later than the evening of the day of issue, except by special written permission of the Registrar, which permission is to be filed by the record-keeper, and a note thereof made in the "remarks" column of the day-book.

That every record should on its return be examined by the Record-keeper to satisfy himself that it is in the same state as when it left his custody, and its return should be noted at once in the proper column in the day-book. Any injury done to a record, or the failure to return it at the proper time, should be at once brought to the Registrar's notice by the record-keeper.

That the copying of records should be done, if possible, by an officer of the record room.

On these lines the reorganisation of the record rooms has for some months proceeded throughout the Island, and in the course of time I trust the records will be as safe in the outstation offices as the structural deficiencies of the buildings will permit. In Colombo the work is of a far more arduous character. The records of the Colombo office are as follows :—

(1)—*Land Registration Department.*

(*a*) Duplicates and protocols of notarial and other deeds executed before the creation of the Department, and transferred to it under section 34 of Ordinance 8 of 1863 from the Colombo District Court, in which they had been previously filed, including duplicates filed in the Provincial Courts that preceded the Colombo District Court.

(*b*) Crown grants of lands executed prior to 1866, and taken over from the Colombo District Court under the Colonial Secretary's circular to District Judges dated April 20, 1871.

(*c*) Crown grants of lands executed after 1866.

(*d*) Duplicates of notarial and other deeds executed subsequent to 1863, and deposited in this office by notaries, &c., in terms of section 35 of Ordinance 8 of 1863 and section 11 of Ordinance 3 of 1865, and protocols of those notaries who have died, been dismissed, or ceased to practise.

(*e*) Copies of lists of all deeds executed before notaries, kept pursuant to sub-section 11 of section 26 of Ordinance 2 of 1877.

(*f*) Volumes in which deeds affecting lands or movables in the Colombo District are registered under the Ordinances 8 of 1863, 3 of 1865, 8 of 1871, and 21 of 1871.

(*g*) Indexes, local and personal, to such registers.

(*h*) Notes of registration, or duplicates of the registrations effected in all the Land Register Offices in Ceylon.

(*i*) Indexes to the notes of registration.

(*j*) Lists of persons appointed executors, administrators, guardians, and curators, kept under section 46 of Ordinance 8 of 1863, so as to be able to answer inquiries as to tacit or legal hypothecs.

(*k*) List of Crown debtors with their sureties, kept under section 47 of Ordinance 8 of 1863 for the same purpose.

(*l*) Registers and copies of old deeds, sannases, &c., executed before February 1, 1840, and registered under Ordinances 6 of 1866 and 15 of 1867.

(*m*) Registers of services of tenants in the Kandyan Provinces commuted under the Service Tenures Ordinance (4 of 1870).

(*n*) Correspondence during the last twenty-four years with other Departments of Government or with the public.

(*o*) Correspondence during that period with the District Registrars, and the returns and accounts received from them.

(2)—*Marriages, Births, and Deaths Registration Department.*

(*a*) Registers or thombus in the Dutch, English, Sinhalese, and Tamil languages of baptisms or births and marriages in the Western Province, dating from 1704, and kept prior to the general system of registration commenced in 1867, and taken over from the Colombo Kachchéri.

(*b*) Registers of marriages registered in Ceylon on and after March, 1867, after solemnisation in Christian churches and District Register Offices.

(*c*) Registers of births registered in Ceylon on and after March 1, 1867.

(*d*) Registers of deaths registered in Ceylon on and after March 1, 1867.

(*e*) Registers of past births—*i. e.*, births which took place between January 1, 1863, and March 1, 1867—registered under section 9 of Ordinance 18 of 1867.

(*f*) Correspondence with other Government Departments or with the public.

(*g*) Correspondence with Provincial Registrars, and the returns and accounts received from them.

The permanent value of the great majority of the records cannot be exaggerated. On them now, and in future years, the decision of most important and valuable rights will depend. And yet these records have been for years, and the mass of them still are, accessible almost to anybody, and daily subject to incredible risks. In 1878 an expensive record room was built in the Colombo office, and an attempt was made to reduce the records of the Land Department to some order and security. But there was no verification of them nor any list made of missing records. In fact, there was never any verification of records till I commenced one in October last, nor was there any person in charge of the records. The accommodation of the record room has long since been exhausted, and the records have overflowed into every part of the office. They have not merely filled the numerous presses which occupy all the available space outside the record room, but are lying on the tops of presses and tables and on the floor, to the great hindrance of the public business and the discomfort of the large clerical staff, as His Excellency the Governor saw on the occasion of the visit he was pleased to make to this office on June 6 last—the first vice-regal visit, I may mention, that has been made to the Department since its establishment.

Some idea of the enormous mass of records in the office, and of the rate at which they are increasing, may be gathered from the annexed statement IX., which, however, does not include all the classes of records mentioned above. The records included in the statement would, if bound (which the majority are not), form about 25,000 big volumes. The existing record room is barely enough for half of them, and more accommodation is urgently needed.

Until suitable accommodation is provided, the reorganisation of the record office must be greatly impeded. The work is proceeding as well as it can under existing circumstances. A staff consisting of a record-keeper, two assistants, three bookbinders, a messenger, and a cooly has been at work from October 1 last, arranging and verifying the records. All the notarial duplicates in the office from the opening years of the century have been examined and verified, and a list made of the existing and missing deeds. Numbers of deeds have been found damaged by insects or damp, or torn out of the files. It is probable that greater havoc has been made among the registers of births, deaths, and marriages, which are still awaiting examination, and have been even more grievously neglected. When the work of arranging and verifying the records will be finished, it is difficult to say, but it can hardly be under a year or eighteen months. Even when that is done, the risks inseparable from deficient and insecure accommodation will remain.

In view of the profit—over half a million rupees—that this Department has contributed to the public exchequer, and of the urgency of the need, the claims of the Department for better accommodation cannot be ignored with justice or safety. The building of a more commodious office, and on a site more convenient to the public, cannot be long deferred. When such an office is built, not only should ample accommodation be provided for records, but the record room should be made secure against fire. It is remarkable that not one public office in Ceylon is fireproof. Such a fate as recently overtook the Secretariat at Allahabad, and its valuable archives, may easily overtake us.

V.—REGISTRATION OF TITLES TO LAND.

The year 1887 will be memorable in the history of the Department for the inauguration of the scheme for the registration of titles to land, which was the main object for which the Department was created in 1863. For a quarter of a century this important work has been neglected, and the whole energies of the Department have been devoted to "the interim registration of deeds," which the Ordinance 8 of 1863 provided for only as a temporary and intermediate measure until the necessary surveys had been made as a basis for the registration of titles. It was reserved for His Excellency Sir Arthur Gordon to bring into operation the long-neglected scheme. It has been ushered in very quietly, but will in lasting fruit outgrow far noisier schemes.

Though the Ordinance was passed only in 1863, the registration scheme has a much earlier history, and has passed through many vicissitudes in Ceylon. Almost at the very beginning of the English rule it was recognised as a fundamental principle of good administration that titles to land should be registered, and that a more systematic attempt should be made for that purpose than had been made by the Dutch Government, relics of whose work are still to be found in many parts of the Island in "thombus"—registers by no means of primitive simplicity.

On March 1, 1801, a Proclamation was issued by that great Governor, the Hon. F. North (afterwards Earl of Guildford), in which, after referring to "the urgent necessity of establishing a certain and convenient mode of enregistering the property of individuals," authority was given to "the Presidents and Acting Presidents of the several Civil and Land Raads to hold register of land within their respective districts," and "to draw up, make out, and enrol the several title-deeds to serve as vouchers for the tenure of immovable property, and all manner of transfers, mortgages, mortgage bonds, and assignments thereof, and all other deeds affecting landed or immovable property of what nature or description soever," and it was further declared that the title-deeds, transfers, mortgage bonds, and assignments so made out and enrolled by the Registrars were to "have preference and precedence of every the like kind drawn out or executed before a notary or other person," excepting

those that had been registered in the Land Raads, &c., under the Dutch Government. On July 14, 1802, "in order to render landed property secure, by diminishing as much as possible all causes of dispute respecting the situation, extent, and limits thereof," it was proclaimed that no deed affecting land should be valid unless authenticated by a figure of survey issued by the Surveyor-General (an officer created by Proclamation of August 2, 1800), to whom the public were required to apply with all convenient speed to have their lands surveyed. By Proclamation of May 9, 1803, the Board of Commissioners were vested with the power previously vested in the Land Raads of registering lands.

The Proclamations of 1801 and 1803, though not expressly repealed, fell into disuse for some reason or other which does not appear, but probably because the Land Raads and Boards of Commissioners were abolished without the substitution of any other machinery. The political troubles connected with the subjugation of the Kandyan country and the frequent rebellions that broke out, the restoration of order and authority throughout Ceylon, the organisation of better methods of collecting revenue and administering justice, the opening up of the country by roads, &c., demanded the immediate attention of successive Governors; and the registration scheme was lost sight of till the calm that followed the suppression of the last rebellion in 1848. Meanwhile the insecurity of creditors and capitalists from the facilities afforded to dishonest debtors to raise money on the security of property already mortgaged to others, and, still more, the great increase of litigation about lands, which was officially stated to be the reason for the establishment of additional Law Courts in 1858, had for some years attracted the attention of thoughtful men. Captain Gossett, the then Surveyor-General, pressed upon Government, as the only effective remedy, a complete scheme of registration of titles and deeds which he had matured during several years and the working of which he had watched in other countries. A Committee was appointed by Governor Sir Henry Ward, consisting of Captain Gossett, Mr. Charles Lorensz, and the Acting Queen's Advocate, Mr. R. Morgan, to consider the scheme. They reported in its favour, and accompanied their report with a draft Ordinance. No further steps were taken till 1861, when Sir Charles MacCarthy announced in his Opening Address to the Legislative Council his intention of bringing forward the measure. It was, however, not introduced that session. In the following year, Mr. Thomson, Queen's Advocate, submitted two Ordinances to the Council on the subject. Owing to certain objections on the part of the Supreme Court those Ordinances were not persevered in. A reference was again made to the remaining members of the old Committee, Mr. Morgan, Queen's Advocate, and Mr. Lorensz, who, upon the footing of Captain Gossett's scheme and of the amendments suggested by the Supreme Court, prepared the measure now known as the Ordinance 8 of 1863, establishing the Registrar-General's Department and providing for a registration of titles on the basis of a cadastral survey and for an interim registration of deeds pending the preparation of the survey.

The Secretary of State, on the advice of the Law Officers of the Crown, suggested certain amendments so as to secure the investigation as well of undisputed as of disputed claims, the extension of the time after which certificates of titles were to bar claims, and the punishment of those guilty of fraudulent registration, and stated that when those alterations were made he would, "with great pleasure, submit for the confirmation of Her Majesty an Ordinance which he did not doubt would be of great advantage to the Colony, and which reflected much credit on those who had been concerned in passing it." The Ordinance was accordingly amended by the Ordinance 2 of 1865, and re-amended in the same year under further instructions by Ordinance 3 of 1865. The Ordinance 8 of 1863, so far at least as the interim registration of deeds was concerned, was brought into operation as soon as the Ordinance was passed, and its working was entrusted to Mr. W. J. MacCarthy, the first Registrar-General, who continued to preside over the Department for twelve years. In 1875 Mr. Gillman was appointed to report upon the Registrar-General's Department and made a very able and thoughtful report, the recommendations in which served as the basis for the amending Ordinance 5 of 1877 introduced by Sir Richard Cayley. This Ordinance made more effective provision than the previous Ordinances had done for registration of titles. It provided especially for registration of two kinds of titles: (1) those which were supported by such evidence as a willing purchaser would take, and (2) those which fell short of such evidence, but which were supported by *bonâ fide* possession. It provided also for claims being inquired into and decided at the spot by the Registrar-General, instead of by District Courts, subject to appeal to the Supreme Court, and for compulsory registration of deeds affecting lands titles to which had been registered. Soon after the Ordinance was passed Sir Richard Cayley left the Island, as also Sir William Gregory, who had taken a personal interest in the subject, and the measure, which all competent authorities, including the Secretary of State, the Supreme Court Judges, and the Law Officers of the Crown, had agreed in declaring to be most important, again dropped out of sight. It would probably have so remained but for the vigilance of the Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan, who has since 1879 kept the subject before the Government and the public. Early in 1887 he obtained the appointment of a Select Committee of the Legislative Council to report on the difficulties alleged by the opponents of the scheme to exist in the way of bringing it into operation. This Committee reported in June in favour of the immediate bringing into operation of the scheme in the surveyed villages in the vicinity of Colombo, and His Excellency Sir Arthur Gordon lost no time in acting upon that recommendation. Last October, on the return from leave of Mr. J. H. De Saram, the Registrar-General, he was appointed Commissioner to carry out the scheme, and is now at work in Dehiwala and Wellawatta on the outskirts of the town of Colombo.

It is difficult to exaggerate the benefits certain to flow from the registration of titles to land in Ceylon, teeming as it does with small landholders, devotedly attached to their lands and owning them in minute and frequently undivided shares. Custom and tradition have assigned an honourable place in society to landholders, constituting them the highest caste. The equal division of property—whether by operation of law in the case of intestates or by the force of public opinion and custom to which, in the rare cases where wills are made, testators, as a rule, conform—has led to a very extensive distribution of land. It has thus come to pass that in Ceylon land is not the luxury of the few, but the business and the concern of nearly every inhabitant. Not to own land almost argues one a vagabond. It is not surprising that the people cling with tenacity to their little bits of land, and that disputes about them are the most bitter and keenly contested. The prevailing uncertainty of tenure and title to land, and its boundaries, has made these disputes so frequent and numerous, that they constitute the chief burden of the business of our Civil Courts. Nine land cases out of ten turn on the question of possession, and the evidence presented to the courts is oral—

a circumstance which not only increases the difficulties of honest claimants and the labour of judges, but is a direct inducement to the institution of false claims. The evidence is to a great extent false, sometimes false on both sides. The success which often rewards such perjury in our courts, in spite of the best intentions and the ability of our judges, is a stain on our judical system, while each land suit involves in its meshes many of the inhabitants of the village, either as parties or witnesses, and not unfrequently yields a fatal harvest of passion, rancour, and malice, of civil and criminal litigation and of crime, imposing on the public exchequer yearly increasing charges for the maintenance of courts and prisons.

The registration of titles will gradually but surely remedy this unfortunate state of things, and it will be the truest statemanship to persist in the scheme, regardless of the immediate expenditure or labour involved or of the years it will take to complete it over the Island. As soon as titles are registered in any district, litigation about lands will be practically at an end there, and with it a gradual reduction will take place of the crime and the criminal work of the courts, and the expense on courts and prisons. The people will cease to find their chief occupation and amusement in and about the courts, will cease to treasure as heirlooms "*naḍu nommara*"—little bits of paper with the numbers marked in them of cases, they, their relations, friends, and enemies have figured in. They will learn to devote their time and energy to more wholesome occupations, and in course of years there must occur a sensible improvement in the character of the people.

It has been said that this scheme will create litigation and break down under the weight of it and of the heavy expense which it will involve. The many able and experienced men who have at different times advocated the scheme have not shared this opinion nor been deterred by any such fear. The greater part at least of the expense will be recovered from the increased revenue which must come, as I have shown in page 100 D, from the compulsory registration of deeds which is part of the scheme. Litigation may be hastened perhaps by the scheme, but hardly created. Considering that a whole village will be called upon at once to assert and establish their claims, that each owner will have enough to do in preferring and supporting his own title, and that the inhabitants will be mutually dependent on each other for evidence of their rights, the chances are not great of the institution of false or frivolous claims, which are generally conceived in a moment of spite and carried on with the assistance of idle and officious neighbours. This agrees with the experience of the Special Commissioner for the Registration of Titles to Land in the district in which he has hitherto worked. In any case, it is better to settle the disputes at once than allow them to remain festering sores ruinous to the country.*

Indeed, until titles are registered, the registration of deeds, which has monopolised the attention of the Department, can hardly be regarded as a benefit to the public. The registration of deeds was intended to facilitate inquiries respecting prior transactions and to protect capitalists against frauds by dishonest debtors. With this view the Ordinance 8 of 1863 rendered every deed affecting a land void as against a prior registered deed affecting the same land. But it is difficult, and often impossible, in the absence of a cadastral survey, to identify a land in Ceylon from the description of it in a deed. Lands have no fixed names, and are often called after trees standing, or that may have stood, on them, or from any of the numerous persons that may have lived on them. The same land may be called Kosgahawatta (jak tree garden), Dawaṭagahawatta (davata tree garden), or Doḍangahawatta (orange tree garden), or Puñchinóná-padiñchiwatta (Puñchinóna's residing garden), or Juanis-Naide-padiñchiwatta (Juanis Naide's residing garden). The boundaries given to a land are usually lands whose names and descriptions are as fickle and shifting. The extent of the same land is given differently in different deeds, being generally a rough guess. In some villages hundreds of lands are called by the same name. In the village Moraṭuwa there are 1,116 distinct lands called Mádangahawatta, and the folios in which these lands are registered amount to as many as 1,294, scattered over 53 volumes. The identification of any one of these Mádangahawattas for the purpose of registering a new transaction affecting that land would necessitate an examination of all these volumes and folios.

It is needless to comment upon the opportunities thus afforded for mistakes in registration—mistakes fraught with grave consequences to the public, but often inevitable, even if the indexes were up to date (which they were not till recently) and accurate (which they hardly are), and though every clerk was a paragon of industry and accuracy. So conscious is the Department of the imperfections of its work that it will not take upon itself the responsibility of issuing certificates, which, I think, the public have a right to ask, of "negative search"—*i. e.*, certificates that there are no deeds registered against the lands or persons named in the requisition other than those of which extracts are given. Gross frauds may even be perpetrated under the present system by the deliberate insertion in a deed of the particulars of the lands in such a way as to mislead the registering clerk into registering it in a wrong folio.

Such mistakes and frauds can be effectually prevented only by a registration of titles founded upon a cadastral survey. Under it alone can registration possess the unquestionable accuracy and completeness which it should possess. Under it a map of each village will be prepared on such a scale that every holding can be marked and numbered upon it. After timely and sufficient notice all claims to each lot of land will be investigated, and the name of the person found to be the true owner will be entered in the register against the number of the lot. A page in the register will be devoted to each separate property, and account will be there kept of all incumbrances outstanding against it, without any possibility of mistake as to identity. This would effectually and once for all settle every man's title, reduce to a minimum the risk of litigation, and render it possible for

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* This was one of the chief reasons of the Dutch Government for keeping "thombus." In 1740, Governor VanImhoff, in his report, summarising according to custom the results of his administration for the instruction and guidance of his successors, says:—"One of the principal considerations of any man in high authority in any of the districts of the Island is to settle properly the disputes regarding inheritance or landed possessions, which so frequently arise. The ground is left uncultivated while these disputes last, and the Government receives no revenue from it—the natives would rather destroy an entire crop than suffer a person to derive advantage from it whom they do not consider entitled to it. This shows the necessity of a thombu or land registry." (Ribeyro's Ceylon, Lee's trans., page 167.) These thombus were kept apparently in continuation or in lieu of those kept by the Portuguese Government, most of which were missing when the Dutch assumed rule. It is said that the earliest Dutch thombus were prepared by the celebrated Siphalese poet Alagiyawanna Mohaṭṭála, the author of "Kusa Játaka," "Subhásita," &c., whose services were lent to the Dutch by King Rája Siṇha II. of Sitáwaka.

intending purchasers or creditors to ascertain exactly the state of the title of the vendor or debtor with all the incumbrances thereon.

Simplification of Conveyancing.

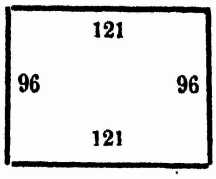
It would lead to another reform of importance—the simplification of conveyancing, abolishing the anomaly of applying the fictions, refinements, and pedantries of English conveyancing to an Oriental population, and rendering unnecessary the accumulation of instruments of title.

The certificate of title issued to each landowner in place of his title-deeds, which should be taken from him to be cancelled, will be, say, in this form, altered from the form prescribed by Ordinance 5 of 1877; a duplicate of the certificate being bound up in the Land Office in volumes forming registers of titles :—

Certificate of Ownership.

Land Registration Ordinance, 1877.

Book, Vol. V., page 18.
Registered plan No. 105.
Allotment No. 18.



Scale ∧

An allotment of land situate in the village [Weligampitiya] in the ——— kóralé.
Bounded on the N. by No. 106 of ———.
E. by No. 107 of ———.
S. by the river.
W. by high road.
Extent 2A. 1R. 15P.
Surveyed by ———.
Surveyor-General's Office,
Date ——— C D, Surveyor-General.

No. 160.

——— Pattu } Weligampitiya ... { ——— District.
——— Kóralé } { ——— Province.

These are to certify that ——— has this day been registered as owner with a title of the first [second] class of [an undivided one-half of] an allotment of land at [Weligampitiya] in the district of [Colombo] as delineated and described in the margin hereof, subject to such incumbrances, liens, and interests as are notified by memorial under-written or endorsed hereon.

Given at ——— this ——— day of ———, 18—.

A B,
Registrar.

[*Memoranda or Memorials.*]

At the foot of this document, and under the signature of the Registrar, there should be room for the entry of such memoranda or memorials as may qualify the title. On each certificate, before issue, will be carefully entered, as well as in the duplicate in the register, a memorandum of every mortgage or incumbrance, in order of priority, the existence of which has been intimated to the Registrar. If the title-deeds are surrendered to the Registrar by the mortgagee, the latter will receive in return the certificate of title with the following memorandum at the foot :—

Deed of mortgage No. —— dated the ——— day of ———, 18—, from the within-named ——— to ———, of ———. Principal sum secured Rs. ———. Rate of interest, 12 per cent. Date appointed for redemption ——— day of ———, 18—. Interest to be paid monthly on the ——— day of the month.

——— *Registrar.*

Thenceforth every change of ownership and every dealing with the land must be notified at the Registry Office and entered in the certificate and its duplicate in the registers before it can take effect. No elaborate conveyance need be drawn by professional men. Simple forms will be provided which can be filled up with little formality, and special clerks will be appointed at the Registry Offices to draw up transfers, mortgages, or leases, &c., at moderate fees. You wish to buy a land. You go to the Land Office with the vendor, who takes his certificate of title with him. You explain your errand to the clerk, who fills up a short printed form of "Memorandum of Sale," which the vendor signs. This is lodged in the office, and a short memorial is written on the face of this certificate and on the duplicate in the register, as follows :—

Memorandum of sale No. —— dated the ——— day of ———, 18—, produced the same day at ——— o'clock in the forenoon from the within-named ——— to ———, of ———. Consideration money paid, Rs. ———.

——— *Registrar.*

The certificate then becomes your property, and thus on the face of one piece of paper you have all you can want to know about the state of your title—viz., the original certificate that the land is the property of A B, and the subsequent memorial showing that on a certain date A B sold the land to you. Every subsequent dealing with the land must appear on the face of the certificate in the same way—sale, lease, mortgage, discharge, or extension, or assignment of mortgage, transmission by death, &c. On making a search at the Registry Office anyone can see at a glance on a single page of the Register Book the whole of the recorded dealings with any given property, and you, as the person interested, can see by reference to the one document which you hold the precise extent of your interest. In case you buy only part of the land of A B as described in the certificate, you will receive a new certificate for the piece you have purchased, and A B's certificate will be cancelled to that extent and returned to him.

This system of conveyancing is in operation in the Australian Colonies and is known as the Torrens System, and should be the goal for us to aim at. The registration of titles, as provided for by Ordinance 5 of 1877, needs this scheme to supplement it and to attain its full measure of success: and this is the only radical and effective cure for the evils of our notarial system which I have adverted to.

P. ARUNACHALAM,
Acting Registrar-General.

Colombo, May, 1888.

APPENDIX.

I.—Statement showing the Work of the Land Registration Department in the years 1886 and 1887.

	1886.	1887.	Increase.	Decrease.
Business.				
Number of Deeds registered	40,039	41,320	1,281	—
Number of Entries	70,436	71,441	1,005	—
Number of Certificates issued	55,160	56,004	844	—
Applications	2,193	2,482	290	—
Copies and Extracts	2,162	2,093	—	69
Number of Notarial Duplicates examined ...	101,563	107,210	5,647	—
Do. do. indexed ...	658	658	—	—
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Total amount secured on Mortgages ...	10,314,914 29	9,586,932 82½	—	727,981 47½
Total value of Transfers of Properties by Sale, Gifts, &c.	9,117,526 16	8,374,979 22½	—	742,546 94½
Revenue.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Value of Stamps	79,421 50	78,038 50	—	1,383 0
Deficiencies of Stamp Duty recovered on Notarial Duplicates	737 33	350 20	—	387 13
Fines, &c.	1,727 0	1,396 50	—	330 50
District Court fines imposed under the Notaries and Stamp Ordinances	—	192 0	192 0	—
Total ...	81,885 83	79,977 20	192 0	2,100 63
Charges of Management.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Salaries { Fixed Establishment ...	41,466 48	41,175 28	—	291 20
Salaries { Provisional and Temporary ...	15,309 7	15,080 19	—	228 88
Allowances	600 0	600 0	—	—
Extra Clerks	1,020 0	1,108 32	88 32	—
Bookbinders	2,047 57	1,878 94	—	168 63
Stationery	626 67	615 84	—	10 83
Furniture and Petty Expenses	708 84	723 71	14 87	—
Civil, Criminal, and Revenue Law Expenses ...	—	—	—	—
Rent	1,150 0	1,305 0	155 0	—
Transport	1,900 75	1,336 28	—	564 47
Total ...	64,829 38	63,823 56	258 19	1,264 1

II.—Return showing the Transactions affecting Immovable Property registered under the Land Registration Ordinances during the year 1887.

Offices.	Government Grants.	Transfers other than Gifts.	Certificates of Sale.	Assignments of Title-deeds.	Gifts.	Mortgages.	Transfer of Mortgages.	Security Bonds.	Leases.	Transfer of Leases.	Agreements.	Transfer of Agreements.	Deeds of Partition.	Deeds of Partnership.	Notarial Declaration and Attestations of Title.	Certificate of Possession.	Deeds of Postponement.	Deeds of Exchange.	Deeds of Rectification.	Deeds of Trust.	Power of Attorney.	Bonds of Indemnity.	Deeds of Confirmation, Revocation, and Disclaimer.	Deeds or Acts of Release, Discharge, Surrender, and Annulment.	Judgments or Decrees of Court.	Assignments of Judgment or Decrees of Court.	Caveats.	Total Number of Deeds.	Total Number of Properties affected thereby.	Total Amount secured by Mortgages. Rs. c.	Total Value of Properties transferred by Sale, Gifts, &c. Rs. c.	Applications.	Copies and Extracts.
Registrar-General ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	3	13	100,650 0	—	36	60
Colombo ...	438	2,308	4	—	273	2,153	44	209	286	10	16	2	13	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	462	7	2	—	6,234	9,415	1,971,726 41½	1,394,001 71	586	519
Kalutara ...	500	1,322	3	—	93	1,258	29	45	31	1	6	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	45	—	—	—	3,334	6,192	1,142,685 37½	314,735 99	136	113
Negombo ...	202	1,825	2	1	183	1,630	30	25	448	17	18	—	9	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	117	—	1	—	4,511	6,427	496,131 59	831,841 4½	185	137
Ratnapura ...	33	650	13	8	26	548	9	9	27	—	8	—	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	25	1	—	1	1,363	2,773	220,227 5	663,822 2	81	73
Kurunégala ...	57	2,637	6	—	104	1,541	36	23	68	—	3	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	15	—	—	—	4,496	7,887	606,537 97	300,853 90	97	70
Chilaw ...	515	794	—	—	41	559	8	10	90	2	9	—	2	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	29	—	—	—	2,063	3,085	1,242,548 34	273,126 0	119	150
Kandy ...	104	3,290	25	—	163	1,807	111	86	151	10	25	—	3	4	2	23	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	169	—	—	—	5,975	11,365	1,593,989 19	2,950,277 19½	338	367
Badulla ...	109	812	24	2	29	239	21	—	50	9	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	41	—	—	—	1,341	2,066	249,688 74	341,000 41	44	51
Anurádhapura ...	88	60	—	—	5	22	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	180	254	4,164 1	11,536 6	—	—
Jaffna ...	18	176	181	—	49	979	44	17	3	—	45	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	11	4	—	1,534	2,752	568,881 75	267,368 85	525	288
Mannár ...	19	27	—	—	1	10	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	60	77	4,498 50	21,081 89½	7	7
Mullaittívu ...	13	4	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	19	22	441 0	1,400 0	—	—
Vavúniya-Vilánkulam ...	76	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	77	76	—	1,733 0	—	—
Batticaloa ...	228	302	38	—	82	498	20	7	25	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	—	—	—	1,209	1,601	119,334 9	142,550 92	57	63
Trincomalee ...	219	32	8	—	6	36	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	1	—	—	321	373	46,627 0	27,830 87½	13	14
Galle ...	236	1,564	9	2	73	1,457	97	20	78	1	7	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	32	2	—	1	3,581	7,360	518,151 77	391,907 34	146	100
Mátara ... / Tangalla ...	88	2,514	42	—	71	1,648	49	8	52	—	10	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	9	1	—	—	4,495	9,179	269,716 39½	291,874 89	112	81
Total ...	2,943	18,317	356	13	1199	14,387	502	469	1,309	50	151	6	36	9	8	28	1	3	1	2	1	3	6	963	24	7	2	40,796	70,917	9,355,999 18½	8,226,942 10	2,482	2,093

III.—Return of the Value of Stamps used in the Land Registration Department, and of the Number of Deeds affecting Immovables registered in each Office, bearing Registration Stamps of various Values, during the year 1887.

Offices.	Number of Deeds Registered bearing Registration Stamps of the Value of																															Total Receipts.	
Rupees :—	1	2	2·50	3	4	5	7·50	10	12·50	20	22·50	25	30	32·50	35	40	45	50	55	60	62·50	65	70	80	100	110	150	170	180	220	270	Rs.	c.
Registrar-General ...	97	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	124	50
Colombo	4526	1084	34	699	319	289	97	52	—	33	—	6	2	—	—	2	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	13,904	50
Kalutara	2519	609	6	258	79	38	7	13	—	2	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5,309	50
Negombo	3274	868	4	412	107	95	17	12	—	7	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	7,791	50
Ratnapura	1206	142	18	47	19	17	18	32	—	12	—	6	1	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	3,082	0
Kurunégala	3971	421	—	155	41	25	10	3	—	2	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5,765	0
Chilaw	1468	430	1	233	110	50	8	11	—	4	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4,049	50
Kandy	4728	928	74	389	120	65	50	59	3	81	1	15	13	1	—	7	2	4	1	2	1	—	2	4	—	1	—	2	1	—	1	14,350	50
Badulla	1069	154	18	88	35	19	11	8	—	20	—	2	1	—	—	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2,903	50
Anurádhapura	122	33	—	20	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	268	0
Jaffna	1544	431	1	214	79	43	5	6	—	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	4	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4,099	0
Mannár	86	12	—	2	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	135	0
Mullaittívu	13	4	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	27	0
Vavúṇiya-Világkulam ...	75	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	97	0
Batticaloa	867	253	2	124	44	17	9	3	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2,208	50
Trincomalee	224	84	—	19	13	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	573	50
Galle	2747	573	4	280	118	53	12	4	—	7	—	1	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5,945	50
Mátara ... } Tangalla ... }	3880	504	1	176	62	34	9	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5,924	0
Total ...	32416	6531	164	3118	1152	753	254	206	3	177	1	34	24	1	—	18	3	10	1	4	1	1	4	4	1	2	1	2	1	1	1	76,558	0

Deficiencies of Stamp Duty recovered on Notarial Duplicates	350	20
Fines, &c.	1,396	50
District Court Fines imposed under the Notaries and Stamp Ordinances ...	192	0
Total Rs. ...	78,496	70

IV.—Return of Mortgages and Hypothecs of Movable Property registered during the year 1887 under the Ordinances 8 and 21 of 1871, and the Value of Stamps used.

Offices.	Number and Description of Deed.							Total Amount Secured by Mortgages.		Total Value of Property conveyed by Bills of Sale or Gifts.		Number of Deeds registered bearing Registration Stamps of the Value of											Total Receipts.	
	Bills of Sale	Gifts.	Mortgages and Hypothecs.	Leases.	Agreements.	Discharges.	Total.					Rs. 1.	Rs. 2.	Rs. 2·50.	Rs. 3.	Rs. 4.	Rs. 5.	Rs. 7·50.	Rs. 10.	Rs. 20.	Rs. 25.	Rs. 35.		
								Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.												Rs.	c.
Colombo ...	63	3	124	5	4	20	219	134,771	14	78,210	94½	68	40	7	33	29	18	15	2	4	1	1	743	0
Kalutara ...	17	—	11	—	—	—	28	1,169	0	5,904	50	16	6	—	4	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	51	50
Negombo ...	4	—	11	—	—	—	15	1,869	0	745	51½	8	5	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	24	0
Ratnapura ...	—	—	6	—	—	—	6	3,000	0	—		3	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	13	0
Kurunégala ...	1	—	14	—	—	—	15	5,495	0	200	0	6	4	—	2	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	33	0
Chilaw ...	—	—	4	—	—	—	4	998	0	—		1	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	0
Kandy ...	60	—	73	—	—	—	133	55,422	0	26,849	32	56	23	3	21	13	9	5	3	—	—	—	337	0
Badulla ...	5	—	6	—	—	—	11	21,207	50	1,495	0	3	3	—	2	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	43	0
Anurádhapura ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—		96	0	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	0
Jaffna ...	15	—	—	—	—	—	15	—		4,407	69½	1	1	—	—	—	12	—	1	—	—	—	73	0
Mannár ...	4	—	—	—	—	—	4	—		362	0	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	0
Mullaittívu ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	2	150	0	3,000	0	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	9	50
Batticaloa ...	14	—	2	—	—	—	16	585	0	8,426	50	6	4	—	3	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	39	50
Galle ...	25	—	8	—	—	—	33	5,890	0	16,726	15	21	4	—	4	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	69	0
Mátara ...	17	—	5	—	—	—	22	377	0	1,613	50	16	3	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	31	0
Total ...	227	3	265	5	4	20	524	230,933	64	148,037	12½	209	97	10	77	51	41	23	6	6	1	1	1,480	50

V.—Statement showing the Receipts and Expenditure of the Land Registration Department during the year 1887.

Offices.	Total Receipts.		Total Expenditure.		Excess of Receipts.		Excess of Expenditure.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Registrar-General	124	50	7,670	46	—		7,545	96
Colombo	14,647	50	8,991	6	5,656	44	—	
Kalutara	5,361	0	4,922	97	438	3	—	
Negombo	7,815	50	3,812	61	4,002	89	—	
Ratnapura	3,095	0	2,411	48	683	52	—	
Kurunégala	5,798	0	4,919	94	878	6	—	
Chilaw	4,057	50	1,333	54	2,723	96	—	
Kandy	14,687	50	10,415	21	4,272	29	—	
Badulla	2,946	50	2,225	3	721	47	—	
Anurádhapura	269	0	218	0	51	0	—	
Jaffna	4,172	0	2,363	70	1,808	30	—	
Mannár	140	0	230	0	—		90	0
Mullaittívu	36	50	—		36	50	—	
Vavúṇiya-Viláṇkulam	97	0	—		97	0	—	
Batticaloa	2,248	0	960	65	1,287	35	—	
Trincomalee	573	50	350	0	223	50	—	
Galle	6,014	50	7,243	25	—		1,228	75
Mátara ... ... / Taṇgalla	5,955	0	5,755	66	199	34	—	
	78,038	50	63,823	56	23,079	65	8,864	71
Deficiencies of Stamp Duty recovered on Notarial Duplicates	350	20	—		350	20	—	
Fines, &c.	1,396	50	—		1,396	50	—	
District Court Fines imposed under the Notaries and Stamp Ordinances	192	0	—		192	0	—	
	79,977	20	63,823	56	25,018	35	8,864	71
Deduct Excess of Expenditure ...					8,864	71		
Net Excess of Receipts ...					16,153	64		

VI.—Statement showing the Amount of Business transacted in each of the Offices of the Land Registration Department in the year 1887.

Offices.	Number of Deeds registered.	Number of Enteries.	Number of Certificates Issued.	Average Number of Deeds registered per Month.	Number of Deeds remaining unregistered on January 1, 1887.	Number of Deeds remaining unregistered on December 31, 1887.
Registrar-General ... / Colombo ..	6,456	9,647	7,540	538	425	17
Kalutara ...	3,362	6,220	4,390	280	83	3
Negombo ...	4,526	6,442	5,314	377	57	2
Ratnapura ...	1,369	2,779	2,027	114	150	136
Kurunégala ...	4,511	7,902	6,652	375	683	6
Chilaw ...	2,067	3,089	2,473	172	110	—
Kandy ...	6,108	11,498	9,626	509	394	65
Badulla ...	1,352	2,077	1,831	112	—	—
Anurádhapura ...	181	255	229	15	—	—
Jaffna ...	1,549	2,767	1,685	129	—	—
Mannár ...	64	81	68	5	—	—
Mullaittívu ...	21	24	21	1	2	—
Vavúṇiya-Viláṇkulam ...	77	76	77	6	—	—
Batticaloa ...	1,225	1,617	1,321	102	—	—
Trincomalee ...	321	373	328	26	—	—
Galle ...	3,614	7,393	5,306	301	83	18
Mátara ... / Taṇgalla ...	4,517	9,201	7,116	376	464	—
Total ...	41,320	71,441	56,004	3,438	2,451	247

VII.—Comparative Statement of the Revenue and Expenditure of the Land Registration* Department from 1864 to 1887.

Period.	Revenue.		Expenditure.		Excess of Receipt.		Excess of Expenditure.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
1864	41,287	0	56,839	62	—		15,552	62
1865	53,808	62	56,037	79	—		2,229	17
1866	56,822	75	53,765	37	3,057	38	—	
1867	55,108	4	53,653	96	1,454	8	—	
1868	56,085	83	58,954	37	—		2,868	54
1869	54,433	75	60,899	29	—		6,465	54
1870	50,641	37	59,820	25	—		9,178	88
1871	62,071	71	57,805	50	4,266	21	—	
1872	83,834	50	54,964	12	28,870	38	—	
1873	86,389	7	58,547	72	27,841	35	—	
1874	91,673	90	59,158	92	32,514	98	—	
1875	103,058	45	65,218	40	37,840	5	—	
1876	116,415	30	62,962	3	53,453	27	—	
1877	141,564	60	66,370	75	75,193	85	—	
1878	129,771	0	68,656	7	61,114	93	—	
1879	125,302	75	69,236	17	56,066	58	—	
1880	124,330	38	75,673	55	48,656	83	—	
1881	107,734	10	70,459	54	31,274	56	—	
1882	90,065	50	70,669	42	19,396	8	—	
1883	81,468	75	70,249	91	11,218	84	—	
1884	99,090	5	60,684	36	38,405	69	—	
1885	76,434	85	62,153	98	14,288	87	—	
1886	81,885	83	64,829	38	17,056	45	—	
1887	79,977	20	63,823	56	16,153	64	—	
Total	2,043,255	30	1,501,434	3	578,116	2	36,294	75

Showing a Net Profit of Rs. 541,821·27.

[*For Table* VIII. *see page* 118 D*.]

IX.—Statement of some of the Records and their Rate of Increase in the Colombo Office of the Registrar-General of Lands and of Marriages, Births, and Deaths.

LAND.

Approximate Number of Volumes of Protocols of deceased or dismissed Notaries prior to 1879.	Approximate Number of Volumes of Notarial Duplicates when the Recordroom was established in 1879.	Number of Duplicates deposited from 1879 to the end of 1887.	Number of Volumes they would make, at 100 Deeds to a Volume.	Number of Notaries who have ceased through death, dismissal, &c., to practise from 1880 to 1887.	Number of their Protocols.	Number of Volumes they would make, at 100 to a Volume.	Number of Volumes of Registers.	Number of Volumes of Indexes.	Notes of Registration from July 1, 1885, to December 31, 1887.	Number of Volumes they would make, at 400 to a Volume.
4,000	5,400	1879... 23,418	2,212	30	134,266	1,342	258	73	88,865	222
		1880... 25,933								
		1881... 24,719								
		1882... 22,477								
		1883... 24,109								
		1884... 25,309								
		1885... 25,696								
		1886... 24,429								
		1887... 25,188								
	Total	... 221,278								
No. of Vols. 4,000	5,400	—	2,212	—	—	1,342	258	73	—	222

MARRIAGES, BIRTHS, AND DEATHS.

Number of Entries since 1867.					Number of Volumes of Thombus or Registers.					
Year.	Marriages.	Births.	Deaths.	Past Births registered under § 9 of Ordinance 18 of 1867.	Dutch Thombu (paper).	English Thombu (paper).	Sinhalese Thombu (ôla).	Sinhalese Thombu (paper).	Tamil Thombu (paper).	Thombus of the different denominations of Christians.
1867..	4,486	23,333	27,302	—	164	551	213	122	40	172
1868...	6,782	47,096	59,441	3,877						
1869...	9,647	52,825	48,023	13,868						
1870...	14,807	63,527	42,238	49,787						
1871...	11,178	68,856	46,803	5,390						
1872...	9,605	69,573	53,337	8,423						
1873...	9,731	69,702	49,049	8,144						
1874...	9,007	74,698	52,286	3,916						
1875...	9,268	71,102	55,614	2,653						
1876...	9,341	77,560	62,580	4,409						
1877...	7,864	71,519	84,781	5,799						
1878...	7,852	63,336	75,666	43						
1879...	8,707	69,529	57,730	1						
1880...	9,641	72,318	50,575	—						
1881...	8,767	74,794	75,012	—						
1882...	9,897	74,042	54,672	—						
1883...	10,230	82,240	53,680	—						
1884...	9,784	87,407	62,398	—						
1885...	7,579	79,234	81,908	—						
1886...	8,057	76,836	67,041	—						
1887...	21,409	93,223	68,496	—						
Total	203,639	1,462,750	1,228,632	106,310						
No. of Vols.	678	4,876	4,075	355	164	551	213	122	40	172

Total number of volumes of the Land Department 13,507
Total number of volumes of the Marriages, Births, and Deaths Department ... 11,246

Total ... 24,753

X.—List of Notaries Practising in Ceylon on December 31, 1887.

Western Province.

Colombo District.

	Name.	District of Jurisdiction.	Place of Office.	Date of Appointment.	Language in which licensed to practise.
1	Ahamadu Lebbe, Segu Lebbe	Colombo	Colombo	Jan. 12, 1847	Tamil
2	Arasakularatna, Don Marselis	do.	do.	Feb. 19, 1852	English and Sinhalese
3	Amarasekarage Don Frederick	Adikari pattu, Hewagam korale ...	Kolonnawa	Aug. 3, 1860	Sinhalese
4	Amarasekara, Don Johannes	Colombo	Hanwella	Jan. 8, 1864	do.
5	Attanayakage Martinus Fernando Amarasekara Jayawardana ...	do.	Colombo	Nov. 18, 1869	do.
6	Amarasinha, Elias Perera Sandrasekara	do.	Tihariya	March 13, 1872	do.
7	Abayaratna, Andrew Perera Sandrasekara Amarasinha ...	Adikari pattu, Hewagam korale ...	Mulhiriyawa	May 18, 1872	do.
8	Amarasekara, Don Charles	Hewagam korale	Atigala	Oct. 5, 1875	do.
9	Abeyasinha, Wilfred	Colombo	Colombo	Dec. 6, 1877	English
10	Alvis, Arthur William	do.	do.	Jan. 4, 1879	do.
11	Abeysinha, Simon Gomis	Adikari pattu, Siyane korale ...	Mahara	Oct. 6, 1862	Sinhalese
12	Benaragamage Don William Wijeyawikkrama Jayasiriwardana ...	Palle pattu, Salpiti korale, and district of Colombo	Timbirigasyaya	April 20, 1866	English and Sinhalese
13	Coomaraswamy, Ponnambalam	Colombo	Colombo	May 2, 1877	English
14	Caderamen, John	do.	do.	Sept. 6, 1878	English, Sinhalese, and Tamil
15	De Saram, Frederick John	do.	do.	April 22, 1871	English
16	De Fry, William Bernard	do.	do.	Feb. 23, 1877	do.
17	De Saram, Richard Francis	do.	do.	March 10, 1879	do.
18	De Saram, George	do.	do.	—	—
19	De Soyza, Frederick	do.	do.	Sept. 17, 1885	do.
20	De Fry, John James	do.	do.	Dec. 30, 1885	do.
21	Ederisinha Arachchige Diodibus, *alias* Dionimus Perera Wijayasinha Gunatilaka	Siyane korale...	Mapitigama	Jan. 25, 1873	Sinhalese
22	Ferdinands, Cecil William	Colombo	Colombo	Nov. 26, 1872	English
23	Fisher, Lionel Paston	do.	do.	—	do.
24	Ganegoda Appuhamillage Don David Senewiratna ...	Adikari, Meda, and Gangaboda pattus, Siyane korale	Heyantuduwa	July 12, 1859	Sinhalese
25	Gunawardana, Don Jacovis Jayasuriya	Gangaboda and Udugaha pattus, Siyane korale	Attanagalla	March 31, 1866	do.
26	Gunaratna, Don Dionis	Udugaha patta, Hewagam korale ...	Degamboda	Jan. 17, 1870	do.
27	Gunatilaka, James Perera Senewiratna	Colombo	Colombo	July 24, 1880	English
28	Gunatilaka, Charles Perera Senewiratna	do.	do.	Dec. 13, 1882	English and Sinhalese
29	Hendenipatirannahelage Don Peris Abayawardana ...	Meda pattu, Siyane korale	Tihariya	Dec. 14, 1871	Sinhalese
30	Hewagamage Santiago Pinto Samarsinha Gunawardana ...	Wattala, Telenigapata, and Awariwatta ...	Wattala	Aug. 16, 1869	do.
31	Hettiarachchige Floris Lobus Dharmaratna	Colombo	Dalugama	Feb. 9, 1872	do.
32	Hettige Don Thomas Samaranayaka	do.	Nagoda	June 23, 1875	do.
33	Joseph, Abraham Orlando	do.	Colombo	March 8, 1866	English
34	Jayamana, Daniel Rodrigo	Palle pattu, Salpiti korale	Wellawatta	Oct. 4, 1872	Sinhalese
35	Julius, V. A.	Colombo	Colombo	July 6, 1880	English
36	Kelaart, Henry George	do.	do.	Dec. 31, 1850	do.
37	Kattolarallage Don David Amarasekara Jayawardana ...	Southern division of Alutkuru korale ...	Gampaha	May 4, 1861	Sinhalese
38	Koswattage Don Daniel Wikkramasinha	Udugaha pattu, Salpiti korale ...	Narahenpita	March 19, 1864	do.
39	Keith, John Neil	Colombo	Colombo	Aug. 16, 1865	English
40	Kottachchi Arachchige Don Philip De Alwis Wijayasekara Appuhami.	do.	Ratmalana	Sept. 15, 1868	Sinhalese

	Name.	District of Jurisdiction.	Place of Office.	Date of Appointment.	Language in which licensed to practise.
41	Kulatunga, Don Joseph	Colombo	Colombo	Jan. 15, 1872	English and Sinhalese
42	Karunaratna, Don Simon Joseph Wirasekara	Adikari pattu, Siyane korale	Biyanvila	April 22, 1872	Sinhalese
43	Karunaratna, Paulus Perera Wikkramasinha	Meda pattu, Siyane korale	Malwatuhiripitiya	Dec. 3, 1872	do.
44	Kirihettiliyanage Don John Senanayaka	Ragam pattu, Alutkuru korale	Pamunugama	Jan. 20, 1877	do.
45	Kumaragewattage John Samuel Fernando Siriwardana	Colombo	Moratuwa	Mar. 9, 1877	do.
46	Kodikarage D. C. Samaranayaka	Adikari pattu, Hewagam korale	Kotuwila	Aug. 5, 1871	do.
47	Livera, James	Colombo	Colombo	June 21, 1853	English and Sinhalese
48	Loos, Frederick Charles	do.	do.	July 21, 1859	English
49	Liesching, Frank	do.	do.	Aug. 28, 1885	do.
50	Lewis, Don Simon	do.	do.	Feb. 24, 1875	English and Sinhalese
51	Lindamulage Andrew De Silva Dharmaratna	do.	Weligampitiya	Jan. 24, 1879	Sinhalese
52	Muhandirange Joseph Rodrigo Dharmasinha	do.	Mirihana	March 10, 1851	do.
53	Mack, Peter Daniel Anthonisz	do.	Colombo	July 5, 1879	English
54	Madawalaliyanage Don Nicholas Abayasekara Jayatilaka	Palle pattu, Hewagam korale	Talawatugoda	Oct. 10, 1868	Sinhalese
55	Marshall, Charles James Alexander	Udugaha pattu, do.	Avisawella	July 3, 1872	English
56	Magalage Carolis Perera Gunawardana	Colombo	Colombo	Dec. 9, 1880	English and Sinhalese
57	Mohandirange William Rodrigo	Palle pattu, Salpiti korale	Narahenpita	Jan. 21, 1861	Sinhalese
58	Nanayakkara Hettigakandage Francis Fernando Wijayaratna	do.	Moratuwa	Oct. 16, 1867	English and Sinhalese
59	Ohlmus, John Gerard Lambert	do.	Colombo	Jan. 5, 1870	English
60	Patenaperuma Don Charles	Hewagam korale, Meda pattu	Arukwatta	Feb. 18, 1866	Sinhalese
61	Petiyagodagamage Martinus Perera Samarasinha	Colombo	Sedawatta	April 27, 1872	English and Sinhalese
62	Ponnahennedige Simon Dias	do.	Moratuwa	Nov. 29, 1875	Sinhalese
63	Perera, Charles J. H.	do.	Colombo	March 15, 1882	English
64	Perera, Richard J. E.	do.	do.	Oct. 5, 1882	do.
65	Pieris, Charles	do.	do.	Feb. 5, 1883	English and Sinhalese
66	Ranasinha, William Perera	do.	do.	Aug. 28, 1865	do.
67	Ranasinha, Mylius Perera	do.	do.	Feb. 26, 1866	do.
68	Rupasinha Arachchige Pieris Perera Abayagunaratne	do.	Weboda	Sept. 3, 1873	Sinhalese
69	Senewiratna, Abraham Pinto Jayatilaka	Siyane korale	Imbulgoda	July 9, 1879	do.
70	Senaratmohottige Paules Perera Senawiratna Gunatilaka	Colombo	Colombo	May 19, 1851	English
71	Senewiratna, John Marselis Perera Wijayawikkrama Jayasuriya	do.	Dehiwala	Aug. 30, 1860	Sinhalese
72	Siriwardhana Don Hendrick Perera Disanayaka	do.	Colombo	July 3, 1868	do.
73	Seypatge Don Carolis De Seypat Jayatilaka	Palle pattu, Hewagam korale	Aturugiriya	June 26, 1871	do.
74	Saravira Arachchige Don Baron Appuhami	Adikara and Meda pattu of Siyane korale and Ragam pattu of Alutkuru korale	Petiyagoda	Sept. 19, 1871	do.
75	Senaratmudalige Don Juse Jayatilaka	Gangaboda pattu, Siyane korale	Tittapattara	Sept. 25, 1871	do.
76	Samaratunga Randum Appuhamilage Don Hendrick Samaratunga Randum Appuhami	Meda pattu, Siyane korale	Magalagoda	May 14, 1872	do.
77	Senarat Arachchige Don Charles Pieris	Gangoda pattu, Siyane korale	Kalukondayawa	June 22, 1876	do.
78	Sirapperuma Don Charles	Colombo	Batepola	Sept. 16, 1885	do.
79	Staples, Theodore Francis	do.	Colombo	Jan. 14, 1882	English
80	Siddi Lebbe, Mohammado Casim	do.	do.	Nov. 22, 1884	do.
81	Singankuttiarachchige Don Francisco	Meda pattu, Siyane korale	Tihariya	Dec. 3, 1863	Sinhalese
82	Toussaint, Peter John Gratiaen	Colombo	Colombo	Oct. 9, 1882	English
83	Tilakaratna, Andrew De Silva Jayasekara	do.	Pasyala	March 16, 1860	English and Sinhalese
84	Tilakaratna, Goodwin Anthony Wijayasinha	Ragam pattu, Alutkuru korale	Nagoda	Dec. 14, 1871	Sinhalese
85	Uswattege Liyanduru Perera Jayasinha	Colombo	Weligampitiya	July 25, 1878	do.
86	Vanderstraaten, John William	do.	Colombo	Feb. 25, 1867	English
87	Van Cuylenburg, Hector	do.	do.	Nov. 16, 1875	do.

88	Wahalatantrige David Perera Abayaratne Gunatilaka	Palle pattu, Salpiti korale	Kotte	Sept. 29, 1852	Sinhalese
89	Wirahennedige David Fernando Wikkramasekara Karunaratne	Colombo	Moratuwa	March 31, 1874	English and Sinhalese
90	Wanigasurige Don Jakoris	Adikari pattu, Hewagam korale	Kittanpahuwa	Feb. 23, 1860	Sinhalese
91	Wijeyasekara, Don Henry Ernest	Palle pattu, Salpiti korale	Bokundara	Nov. 18, 1869	do.
92	Wikkramaratna, Anthony De Wansa	Adikari and Meda pattus, Siyane korale	Henaratgoda	July 12, 1871	do.
93	Werasurige Don Peris Wijayawardhana Gunaratna	Adikari pattu, Siyane korale	Kirillawala	Aug. 16, 1871	do.
94	Wijayaratna, Robert De Silva	Colombo	Colombo	Oct. 7, 1871	English and Sinhalese
95	Wikkramasinha, Don Bernard	Ragam pattu, Alutkuru korale	Pamunugama	Dec. 14, 1871	Sinhalese
96	Welikala Appuhamillage Don Philip Samarawira	Hewagam korale	Attigala	Feb. 10, 1872	do.
97	Wikkramaratna Cornelius Pieris Gunawarnasuriya	Egoda Uyana	Egoda Uyana	March 13, 1880	do.
98	Wikkramasinha, Carolis Perera	Colombo	Dehiwala	Dec. 9, 1880	do.
99	W. Gabriel Fonseka Wikkramatunga Senawiratna	do.	Colombo	Aug. 13, 1881	English and Sinhalese
100	Wijayasinha, Carolis Perera	do.	Kolonnawa	Jan. 17, 1882	Sinhalese
101	Wikkramasinha, Dedrick George Mendis	do.	Colombo	July 1, 1882	English and Sinhalese
102	Wijayaratna, Samuel William Perera	do.	Dehiwala	Aug. 4, 1877	Sinhalese
		Kalutara District.			
103	Alexander, Don Pedro	Kalutara	Paiyagala	April 16, 1856	Sinhalese
104	Abayaratna, P. E. C.	do.	Kalemulla	July 25, 1872	English and Sinhalese
105	Abayawardana, D. H. J. P.	do.	Paiyagala	Feb. 8, 1875	Sinhalese
106	Christoffelsz, J. J.	do.	Kalutara	Dec. 2, 1878	English
107	Dias, Harmanis	do.	Kehelwatta, Panadure	Oct. 5, 1859	Sinhalese
108	Dias, B. O.	Panadure and Kalutara	do.	Feb. 22, 1883	English
109	Don David De Kornelis	Munwattabage pattu	Molligoda	Aug. 21, 1861	Sinhalese
110	Fernando, Martinus	Kalutara	Maggona	May 18, 1860	English and Sinhalese
111	Fernando, E. P. M.	do.	Kalemulla	April 2, 1870	do.
112	Gunatilaka, Don Joronis	do.	Talpitiya	June 29, 1841	Sinhalese
113	Gunaratna, Erardis De Silva	do.	Kalemulla	Jan. 13, 1853	do.
114	Gunawardana, D. M. A.	do.	Paiyagala	May 14, 1872	do.
115	Gunatilaka, Alexander	do.	Talpitiya	Nov. 30, 1874	do.
116	Gunatilaka, D. B. K.	do.	Kalutara	Sept. 28, 1876	do.
117	Gunaratna, C. D. A.	do.	Gorakana	June 23, 1875	English and Sinhalese
118	Kotalawala, J. A.	Raigam korale	Bandaragama	Oct. 23, 1856	Sinhalese
119	Karunaratna, Don Brampi	Kalutara	Panadure	Dec. 24, 1875	do.
120	Karunaratna, Don Suwaris	do.	Valmilla in Raigam korale	Sept. 20, 1881	do.
121	Mendis, N. Sadris	Gangaboda pattu, Pasdun korale	Waskaduwa	Feb. 1, 1859	do.
122	Mahamadu Ismail, O. L. M.	Kalutara	Beruwala	Dec. 13, 1886	Tamil
123	Perera, B. G.	Beruwala	Panadure	Dec. 6, 1852	Sinhalese
124	Perera, Gabriel	Kalutara	Desestara Kalutara	March 18, 1853	do.
125	Pieris, L James	Beruwala	Beruwala	Jan. 21, 1875	do.
126	Salgado, Francisco	Nallur and Kalutara	Nalluruwa in Panadure	August 3, 1872	do.
127	Siriwardana, A. D. S. W.	Kalutara	Desestara Kalutara	Nov. 23, 1860	English and Sinhalese
128	Tilakaratna, D. C. G.	Mahapattu, Pasdun korale	Agalawatta	Dec. 16, 1868	Sinhalese
129	Wijayaratna, W. F. P.	Diyagama and Uggalboda	Desestara Kalutara	Nov. 17, 1860	do.
130	Wikkramasinha, Don Joronis	Paiyagala and Kalutara	Paiyagala	May 13, 1871	do.
		Negombo District.			
131	Amarasinha, Don Marselis	Negombo	Pallansena	March 8, 1873	Sinhalese
132	Disanayaka, David Alexander	do.	Negombo	April 20, 1887	English and Sinhalese
133	Fonseka, Francisku	do.	Kalahugoda	April 3, 1875	Sinhalese
134	Hitaka Manuel De Silva	do.	Negombo	Dec. 2, 1880	do.

	Name.	District of Jurisdiction.	Place of Office.	Date of Appointment.	Language in which licensed to practise.
135	Jayalatkodituwakkuarachchige Don Jeronimus Wirasekara	Negombo	Negombo	Aug. 23, 1873	Sinhalese
136	Kurukulasuriya, Domingo Leitan	do.	do.	July 15, 1871	Sinhalese and Tamil
137	Mahapatunege John Perera	do.	Kaleliya	Oct. 11, 1876	Sinhalese
138	Mahipalamudalige Marthelis Paris	do.	Dunagaha	March 29, 1858	do.
139	Mendis, Abeyasekara Lodris	do.	Divulapitiya	May 4, 1883	do.
140	Mendis, Abayasekara William David	do.	Negombo	Jan. 13, 1870	do.
141	Minneripitiyage Don Migel	do.	Pallansena	March 13, 1875	do.
142	Perera, Senevirathna Dasanayaka John Peter	do.	Katuwellagama	Oct. 12, 1874	do.
143	Perera, Samarasekara Kulatilaka Wijesinha John Martinus	do.	Udugampola	June 14, 1873	do.
144	Perera, Samarasekara Wijesinha Baron Peter	do.	Dewalepola	May 21, 1870	do.
145	Ramanadan Pulle, Suse	do.	Kochchikade	Sept. 17, 1869	Tamil
146	Salpakandiwayiddiyetilaka, Simanis Silva	do.	Udammita	May 6, 1886	Sinhalese
147	Sansoni, Miliani Henri	do.	do.	March 27, 1884	English
148	Sambukuttiarachchige Abilina Silva Abeysinha Gunawardana	do.	Andiambalama	Feb. 3, 1872	Sinhalese
	Ratnapura District.				
149	Abeyratna, D. M.	Ratnapura	Ratnapura	Jan. 30, 1871	English and Sinhalese
150	Abeyratna, D. J.	do.	do.	July 16, 1867	Sinhalese
151	Abdul Carim, C. M. C.	do.	do.	July 18, 1887	Tamil
152	De Silva, B.	Meda korale	Balangoda	Nov. 20, 1862	Sinhalese
153	Huratalhamy, A.	Ratnapura	Demalaporuwa	June 27, 1855	do.
154	Induhamy, K. A.	Nawadun korale	Ganegoda	July 28, 1870	do.
155	Jacolyn, A.	Kukulu & Atakalan korales	Rakwana	Aug. 20, 1873	do.
156	Mohotti, M. S.	Ratnapura	Panawanna	Aug. 23, 1870	do.
157	Peris, M. J.	do.	Ratnapura	Jan. 14, 1860	do.
158	Perera, W. A. M.	Kuruwiti korale	Hikgashena	March 9, 1871	do.
159	Perera, B.	Kegalla	Yatiyantota	July 15, 1872	do.
160	Perera, D. T.	Ratnapura	Balangoda	Nov. 22, 1875	do.
161	Ranhami, D. M.	Meda and Kadawatu korales	do.	Aug. 3, 1872	do.
	NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCE.				
	Kurunegala District.				
162	Appuhami, K. M. A.	Kurunegala	Kurunegala	Nov. 3, 1855	Sinhalese
163	Appuhami, M. S.	do.	Dambadeniya	Jan. 12, 1874	do.
164	Banda, P. K. K.	do.	Eriyagoda	June 13, 1880	do.
165	Felsinger, W. E.	do.	Kurunegala	Sept. 30, 1859	English
166	Hendrick, M. D.	Katugampola hatpattu	Narammola	March 6, 1866	Sinhalese
167	Jayatilaka, D.	Kurunegala	Dandagamuwa	Sept. 12, 1861	do.
168	Jayawardana, D. B.	do.	Polgahawela	Jan. 24, 1869	do.
169	Karunaratna, K. B.	do.	Balalla	Jan. 25, 1878	do.
170	Mudiyanse, A. H. M.	do.	Alauwa	June 18, 1873	do.
171	Perera, W. A. P.	do.	Waduwawa	Jan. 29, 1874	do.
172	Ranhami, M. R.	do.	Madawala	Aug. 26, 1865	do.
173	Ranasinha, W. H.	Weuda	Weuda	Feb. 4, 1887	do.
174	Rodrigo, B. J.	Kurunegala	Kurunegala	Nov. 17, 1875	do.
175	Schokman, G.	do.	do.	Jan. 24, 1872	English
176	Seneviratna, N. E. P.	do.	do.	Jan. 20, 1882	Sinhalese
177	Wijeyatunga, D. H.	do.	do.	June 9, 1869	do.
178	Wijeyaratna, G. P.	—	Rambukkana	—	do.

Chilaw District.

179	Appuhami, G. A. S.	Chilaw	Kudawila	April	22, 1871	Sinhalese
180	Cassie Chetty, A. M. C.	do.	Puttalam	May	1, 1882	English and Tamil
181	Don Elaris, H.	do.	Dummalasdeniya	April	13, 1874	Sinhalese
182	Fernando, A.	do.	Vennappuwa	June	22, 1876	do.
183	Fernando, Joseph	do.	Chilaw	Oct.	21, 1876	Sinhalese and Tamil
184	Fernando, W. W.	do.	Tambarawila	Feb.	27, 1877	Sinhalese
185	Ibrahim, S. M. N.	Kalpitiya	Kalpitiya	May	13, 1887	Tamil
186	Jayawardana, P.	Chilaw	Madampe	Feb.	16, 1864	English and Sinhalese
187	Lemphers, J.	do.	Chilaw	May	29, 1882	English
188	Markar, A. N.	do.	do.	Aug.	6, 1870	Tamil
189	Patiratna, L. C.	do.	Yogiyana	Dec.	1877	Sinhalese
190	Rowel, A. De	do.	Vaikkal	June	17, 1872	do.
191	Rosairo, A. De	do.	Puttalam	April	22, 1872	English and Tamil
192	Rodrigo, B. R.	do.	Palakuda	Jan.	9, 1873	Sinhalese and Tamil
193	Silva, L. P.	do.	Mavila	Nov.	6, 1871	Sinhalese

SOUTHERN PROVINCE.

Galle District.

194	Anthonisz, E. R.	Galle	Galle	July	21, 1877	English
195	De Silva, R. W. D. N.	do.	Kataluwa	Nov.	15, 1873	Sinhalese
196	D'Zoysa, D. A.	do.	Kosgoda	Jan.	14, 1886	do.
197	Gunatilaka, F. H. D. A.	do.	Warahena	Nov.	8, 1855	do.
198	Gunatilaka, P. C. P.	do.	Talpe	Oct.	26, 1876	do.
199	Gunawardana, D. D. D. S. S.	do.	Malalagama	Dec.	9, 1848	do.
200	Jayasekara, D. D. De S.	do.	Kataluwa	June	22, 1876	do.
201	Jayawardana, A. De S.	Ambalangoda and Wellaboda pattu	Ambalangoda	April	8, 1886	do.
202	Jayasundara, G. V. D. B. De S.	Galle	Kataluwa	March	27, 1874	do.
203	Janaz, W. H. A.	do.	Galle	Dec.	15, 1877	English
204	Lekanawassen, J. A.	Wellaboda pattu	Weragoda	Aug.	21, 1871	Sinhalese
205	Mahanayaka, D. A. De S.	Galle	Akmimana	Jan.	29, 1849	do.
206	Obeyasekara, D. J. F.	do.	Balapitiya	Oct.	23, 1873	English and Sinhalese
207	Piris, J.	do.	Ambalangoda	Aug.	18, 1855	do.
208	Rajakaruna, W. G. E. De S.	do.	Ratgama	Dec.	24, 1854	Sinhalese
209	Samarawikkrama, D.	do.	Kaluwella	July	31, 1866	English and Sinhalese
210	Samarasinha, D. B. De S.	do.	Katukurunda	Aug.	18, 1873	Sinhalese
211	Samarasinha, D. B. S. De S.	do.	Weliwitiya	Dec.	29, 1854	do.
212	Seneviratna, C. D. A.	do.	Mipe	July	6, 1876	do.
213	Seneviratna, J. De S. J.	Hinidum pattu and Mapalagama division of Gangaboda pattu	Mapalagama	March	17, 1874	do.
214	Senanayaka, P. M.	Ahungala and throughout the Bentota-Walallawiti korale	Ahungala	June	13, 1871	do.
215	Siriwardana, D. J. De S.	Galle	Dangedara	Aug.	4, 1852	do.
216	Sirimana, D. A.	do.	Balapitiya	June	21, 1875	do.
217	Tilakaratna, D. A. De S.	do.	Bentota	Feb.	7, 1862	English and Sinhalese
218	VanRooyen, J. A.	do.	Galle	May	9, 1855	Sinhalese
219	Wikramanayaka, D. L. De S.	do.	Talpe	Sept.	28, 1870	do.
220	Wikramanayaka, D. N. De S.	do.	Habaraduwa	Nov.	13, 1855	do.
221	Wijeysekara, J. M.	do.	Ratgama	April	14, 1871	do.
222	Wijeysekara, D. D. De S.	do.	Kahawe	Jan.	12, 1850	do.

	Name.	District of Jurisdiction.	Place of Office.	Date of Appointment.	Language in which licensed to practise.
223	Wijeysiriwardana, A. D. T.	Galle	Welitara	Dec. 20, 1866	Sinhalese
224	Wijeysinha, D. A. D. S.	do.	Kitulampitiya	May 25, 1840	do.
		Matara District.			
225	Abeyagunawardana, D. F.	Matara	Dondra	Jan. 23, 1849	do.
226	Abdul Rahiman, P. B. M.	do.	Dikwella	July 25, 1883	Tamil and Sinhalese
227	Bastiansz, P. E.	do.	Matara	July 6, 1852	English and Sinhalese
228	Dahanayaka, D. H. S.	do.	Sapugoda	Feb. 28, 1849	do.
229	Disanayaka, D. H. S.	do.	Weligama	Aug. 22, 1870	do.
230	Disanayaka, D. A. M.	do.	Dikwella	Oct. 27, 1873	Sinhalese
231	Gunasekara, D. L.	do.	Kadewidiya, Matara	Jan. 10, 1849	do.
232	Kurunanayaka, M. D. A. W.	do.	Kotuwegoda, Matara	Aug. 22, 1870	do.
233	Samarawira, H. F. S.	do.	Denepitiya	Oct. 4, 1873	do.
234	Seyadu Mustapa, S. S. N.	Weligam korale	Akuressa	Dec. 18, 1846	Tamil and Sinhalese
235	Uduma Lebbe Marikar, I. L. M.	Matara	Weligama	Oct. 16, 1873	do.
		Tangalla District.			
236	Dhirasekara, A. D.	Giruwa pattu	Tangalla	Sept. 10, 1869	Sinhalese
237	Dhirasekara, D. D.	Giruwa and Magam pattus	Kirinda	June 23, 1873	do.
238	Kandamby, T. J. D.	Giruwa pattu	Walasmulla	Dec. 7, 1859	do.
239	Mestriyar, I. L. O. M.	do.	Tangalla	Dec. 1, 1873	Tamil and Sinhalese
240	Padili Ibrahim, A. L. M.	do.	Beliatta	March 11, 1856	do.
241	Ratnatunga, D. M. D. S. B.	do.	Aranwella	Aug. 17, 1867	Sinhalese
242	Sulta Markar, U. L.	Giruwa and Magam pattus	Hambantota	Feb. 27, 1873	Tamil and Sinhalese
243	Wiraratna, S. D. S.	Giruwa pattu	Tangalla	Sept. 4, 1884	English and Sinhalese
		CENTRAL PROVINCE.			
244	Appuhami, A. M.	Kandy	Ampitiya	June 16, 1862	Sinhalese
245	Appuhami, W. D. C.	Kegalla	Kegalla	April 13, 1867	do.
246	Appuhami, W. R. P.	Kandy	Kandy	May 18, 1868	do.
247	Avudu Lebbe, A. M.	do.	do.	Oct. 18, 1849	Tamil
248	Banda, S. A. U.	do.	Sirimalwatta	Aug. 18, 1840	Sinhalese
249	Bastian, R. D.	do.	Kandy	Sept. 28, 1866	do.
250	Beven, Edwin	do.	do.	Jan. 3, 1872	English
251	Chittranayaka, C. S.	do.	Kaballa	Aug. 16, 1869	Sinhalese
252	Creasy, H.	do.	Kandy	Jan. 15, 1883	English
253	De Silva, D. C.	do.	Getambe	July 7, 1866	Sinhalese
254	De Silva, H. D. C.	Pussellawa	Pussellawa	Jan. 3, 1877	do.
255	De Silva, Don Ayaris	—	Hanguranketa	Jan. 23, 1868	do.
256	De Soyza, D. S.	Kandy	Miruppa	Sept. 30, 1868	do.
257	Dias, Arnolis	Matale	Wahakotte	Sept. 13, 1869	do.
258	Dias, Nickulas	Kandy	Iriyagama	Aug. 14, 1849	do.
259	Disanayaka, M. D.	—	Mullegama	Sept. 7, 1869	do.
260	Drieberg, R.	Hatton	Hatton	Sept. 1, 1866	English
261	Ekanayaka, W. B.	Matale	Matale	Dec. 16, 1873	Sinhalese
262	Edwards, John	Gampola	Gampola	June 9, 1864	Tamil
263	Ekanayaka, K. D. P.	do.	do.	August 2, 1878	Sinhalese
264	Franciaku, G. Don	do.	do.	March 25, 1867	do.

265	Gunatilaka, William	..	...	...	Kandy	...	...	...	Kandy	...	March 15, 1865	...	English
266	Gunatilaka, D. J. C.	...	..	...	Panwila	...	...	...	Panwila	...	Feb. 28, 1872	...	Sinhalese
267	Gunawardana, J. H.	...	...	...	Kandy	...	...	...	Haloluwa	...	April 21, 1873	...	do.
268	Ilangantilaka, B. A.	...	...	...	—	...	...	...	Hanguranketa	...	Dec. 18, 1873	...	do.
269	Jayasekara, D. P.	...	...	...	Kegalla	...	...	..	Utuwankanda	...	May. 2, 1856	...	do.
270	Jayawardana, D. C. D. S.	...	...	...	Matale	...	...	...	Rattota	...	July 4, 1862	...	do.
271	Jayawardana, J. D. S.	...	...	...	do.	...	...	...	Matale	...	Jan. 26, 1873	...	do.
272	Kiri Banda, B. K. M.	...	...	...	Kandy	...	...	...	Urapola	...	Oct. 18, 1872	...	do.
273	Kalu Banda, D. M.	..	...	...	Urugala	...	...	...	Teldeniya	...	Jan. 29, 1874	...	do.
274	Kiri Banda, W. M.	...	...	...	—	...	...	...	Pallipana	...	July 13, 1868	...	do.
275	Kiri Banda, P.	...	...	...	Gampola	...	...	...	Nawalapitiya	...	May 26, 1862	...	do.
276	Kiri Banda, Y. M.	..	...	...	Urugala	...	...	..	Udispattuwa	...	Feb. 3, 1875	..	do.
277	Karunaratna, D. J. D. A.	...	...	...	—	...	..	...	Harankahawa	...	June 22, 1872	...	do.
278	Mahammadu Kasin, A. L.	...	...	..	Kandy	...	...	...	Kandy	...	Sept. 18, 1876	...	Tamil
279	Muhammadu Lebbe, A. L.	...	...	...	do.	...	...	...	Hakurana	...	Nov. 10, 1870	...	do.
280	Mudiyanse, H. A.	...	...	...	—	...	..	...	Paranagama	...	July 24, 1871	..	Sinhalese
281	Murugesu Pillai, K.	..	...	...	Matale	...	...	...	Matale	...	Nov. 6, 1874	...	Tamil
282	Punchi Banda, G. R. W. S.	...	...	...	Gampola		...	...	Gampola	..	Oct. 25, 1867	...	Sinhalese
283	Punchi Banda, W. S. M	...	...	...	Panwila	...	...	...	Hurikaduwa	...	Jan. 17, 1870	...	do.
284	Perera, Charles D. A.	...	...	...	Kegalla	...	...	...	Kegalla	...	April 26, 1873	...	do.
285	Perera, D. C.	...	...	...	do.	...	...	...	Nelundeniya	...	Dec. 22, 1870	...	do.
286	Perera, K. A. A.	...	...	...	Kandy	...	...	...	Geli-oya	...	April 7, 1861	...	do.
287	Perera, S. D. G.	...	...	...	Kegalla	...	...	...	Kegalla	...	April 7, 1870	...	do.
288	Philips, A. D. ...	...	...	..	Kandy	...	...	...	Urapola	..	Dec. 23, 1865	...	do.
289	Pinhami, S. S. M.	...	...	...	do.	...	...	...	Katugastota	...	Oct. 31, 1862	...	do.
290	Prins, F. A. ..	.	...	...	Matale	...	...	...	Matale	...	March 23, 1877	..	English
291	Ranasingha, J. D. G. P.	...	...	...	Kandy	...	...	...	Uduwawela	...	June 30, 1876	...	Sinhalese
292	Samaranayaka, D. C.	...	...	...	Urugala	...	...	...	Urugala	...	July 18, 1861	...	do
293	Seneviratna, Y. K. B.	...	...	...	Kegalla	...	...	...	Hingala	...	August 8, 1877	...	do.
294	Seneviratna, W. H.	...	...	...	—	...	...	...	Akuramboda	...	Feb. 8, 1875	...	do.
295	Siebel, E. L.	...	...	...	Kandy	...	...	...	Kandy	...	June 22, 1871	...	English
296	Siebel, J. B.	...	...	...	do.	...	...	...	do.	...	June 18, 1857	...	do.
297	Siriwardana, J. A.	...		...	do.	...	...	...	do.	...	July 10, 1867	...	Sinhalese
298	Solomons, F.	...	...	...	do.	...	...	...	do.	...	April 14, 1848	...	English and Sinhalese
299	Surawira, D. A.	...	...	...	Galagedara	...	...	..	Galagedara	...	June 13, 1870	...	Sinhalese
300	Tikiri Banda, R.	...	...	...	Kandy	...	...	...	Peradeniya	...	Jan. 6, 1868	...	do.
301	Tikiri Banda	...	...	...	do.	...	...	...	Girihagama	..	April 24, 1873	...	do.
302	Tilakaratna, S. M. W.	...	...	...	—	...	...	...	Hurikaduwa	...	Aug. 18, 1871	...	do.
303	Thomas, Arthur	...	...	...	Nuwara Eliya...		...	...	Nuwara Eliya	...	Nov. 1, 1883	...	English
304	Van Langenberg, F.	...	...	...	Kandy	...	...	...	Kandy	...	May 31, 1871	...	do.
305	Wanigaratna, J. P.	...	...	...	Matale	...	...	...	Matale	...	Jan. 22, 1874	..	Sinhalese
306	Wirasekara, P. A.	...	...	...	Kandy	...	...	...	Talatu-oya	...	June 27, 1866	...	do.
307	Wikramasekara, D. S.	...	...	...	Matale	...	...	...	Matale	...	Nov. 4, 1862	...	do.
308	Wijayakon, D. J.	...	...	...	do.	...	...	...	do.	...	Oct. 30, 1866	...	do.
309	Wijayasinha, G. T. T.	...	...	...	Kandy	..	...	...	Yatiavawala	...	July 25, 1878	...	do.

NORTH-CENTRAL PROVINCE.

310	Paranagama, J. N.	...	...	...	Nuwarakalawiya		...	...	Anuradhapura	...	Jan. 28, 1865	...	Sinhalese
311	Wikkramasinha, D. A. D.	...	...	...	do.	...	...	...	do.	...	April 8, 1886	...	do.

NORTHERN PROVINCE.

Jaffna District.

	Name	District of Jurisdiction.	Place of Office.	Date of Appointment.	Language in which licensed to practise.
312	Arunasalam, V.	Jaffna	Vaddukkoddai east	Oct. 11, 1872	Tamil
313	Arumukam, M.	Islands	Punkudutivu west	Sept. 12, 1862	do.
314	Arumukam, J.	Jaffna	Jaffna	March 18, 1872	do.
315	Appakkuddi, V.	do.	Charasalai	Aug. 21, 1874	do.
316	Arunasalam, C.	do.	Jaffna	Aug. 29, 1872	do.
317	Arunasalam, K.	Tampalakamam parish	Chempiyanpattu	Jan. 18, 1861	do.
318	Chellappa, K.	Jaffna	Nallur	Oct. 23, 1876	do.
319	Chankarappillai, T. C.	do.	Vannarponnai west	May 2, 1877	English and Tamil
320	Chankarappillai, V.	do.	Nirveli	April 29, 1872	Tamil
321	Chanmukam, M.	do.	Navaly	June 16, 1871	do.
322	Chivasitamparampillai, A.	do.	Vaddukkoddai west	Feb. 25, 1873	do.
323	Chittampalam, A.	do.	Araly south	Nov. 2, 1874	do.
324	Chapapati, K.	do.	Chutumalai	March 8, 1871	do.
325	Chiniwasakam, V.	do.	Chankanai	Jan. 31, 1879	do.
326	Chuvaminatar, A.	Valikamam north	Mallakam	May 9, 1865	do.
327	Chinnattampi, P.	Jaffna	Tellippalai	July 12, 1867	do.
328	Chuppaiyar, K.	do.	Tayiddi	May 7, 1872	do.
329	Chankarappillai, C.	do.	Karativu west	Dec. 9, 1871	do.
330	Chuppiramaniar, M.	do.	Puloly west	May 18, 1868	English and Tamil
331	Chinnattampi, V	do.	Imaiyanan	March 31, 1874	Tamil
332	Charavanamuttu, C.	do.	Puloly east	June 9, 1871	do.
333	Chatasivam, C.	do.	Vatiri	Feb. 23, 1873	do.
334	Chuppiramaniyar, A.	Tenmarachchi	Chandampokkaddi	Sept. 5, 1864	do.
335	Kanakasapai, V.	Jaffna	Vannarponnai west	Oct. 27, 1868	English and Tamil
336	Kantasamy, M.	do.	do.	Jan. 25, 1875	Tamil
337	Kulasekarampillai, A.	do.	Chandiruppay	May 26, 1871	do.
338	Katiravelu, C.	do.	Mulay	March 16, 1872	do.
339	Kanakasapai, V. Mudaliyar	do.	Maviddapuram	Nov. 18, 1873	English and Tamil
340	Kanakaratnam, V.	Islands	Charavanai	Aug. 12, 1887	Tamil
341	Katirkammattampi, C.	Jaffna	Alvay	April 24, 1868	do.
342	Kantappar, M.	do.	Puloly west	Nov. 2, 1874	do.
343	Katiraveluppillai, M.	do.	Valluveddy	June 22, 1871	do.
344	Katirkamar, M.	Tenmarachchi	Chavakachcheri	Nov. 21, 1866	do.
345	Kantar, K.	Jaffna	Mantuvil	Oct. 9, 1867	do.
346	Kayilayar, C.	do.	Tavalai Iyattalai	July 1, 1873	do.
347	Mayelvakanam, C.	do.	Puttur south	April 22, 1872	do
348	Murukesar, C.	do.	Manippay	Oct. 10, 1873	do.
349	Muttatampi, C.	do.	Elalai	Aug. 27, 1869	do.
350	Mandalanayakam, S	do.	Tillippalai	March 31, 1868	do.
351	Mappanar, K.	Valikaman	Vayavilan	Oct. 6, 1837	do.
352	Manikkar, K.	Jaffna	Navatkadu	Nov. 18, 1873	do.
353	Paramanantar, M.	Tenmarachchi	Varani Idaikkurichchi	Sept. 6, 1865	do.
354	Ramalinkam, T.	Valikamam east	Achchuveli north	Aug. 12, 1887	do.
355	Strantenbergh, C.	Jaffna	Jaffna	Sept. 5, 1868	English
356	Sivarattenan, A.	do.	Uduvil	Jan. 25, 1886	Tamil
357	Tampoo, T. M.	do.	Jaffna town	Oct. 23, 1876	English and Tamil

358	Tissavirasinkam, J. A.	Jaffna	Chundikkuly	Nov. 20, 1873	English and Tamil
359	Tampappillai, K.	do.	Kokkuvil	Aug. 26, 1872	Tamil
360	Tampaiyar, P.	do.	Tellippalai	Aug. 8, 1867	do.
361	Tiravampola Mudaliyar, N.	do.	Kaitadi	Aug. 27, 1874	do.
362	Tillaiyampalam, S.	do.	Punakari	Nov. 7, 1871	do.
363	Vayittiyalinkam, J.	Valikamam east	Nirvely	July 23, 1863	do.
364	Visuvalinkam, K.	Jaffna	Koppay south	Oct. 29, 1873	do.
365	Vettiveluppillai, J. Mudaliyar	do.	Vaddukkoddai west	May 30, 1872	do.
366	Vayittilinkam, J.	do.	Tavady	April 5, 1873	do.
367	Veluppillai, R.	do.	Karativu east	May 31, 1875	do.
368	Veluppillai, C.	do.	Karanavay Navindil	April 20, 1875	do.
369	Vayittiyanatar, R.	do.	Kaitadi	May 18, 1874	do.
370	Velayutar, S.	do.	Kaitadi Navetkuli	Aug. 20, 1868	do.
371	Vayettiyalinkam, K.	do.	Madduvil north	Oct. 6, 1869	do.
372	Vallipuranatar, K.	Tenmorachchi and Pachchilapali	Periyapachchilappali	June 3, 1840	do.
		Mannar District.			
373	Cadersaibo Marakkaiar, M.	Mannar island	Erkilampiddy	June 8, 1872	Tamil
374	Fernando, P. S.	Mantai, Parusakkally, and Illuppaikadavai pattus	Karunkandal in Mantai north	Oct. 23, 1863	do.
375	Neina Mohammado Levvai Marakkaiar, K.	Musali and Nannaddan pattus	Putuvaly in Musali south	Feb. 7, 1882	do.
376	Swampillai, T.	Mannar	Mannar	June 5, 1882	English and Tamil
		Vavuniya-Vilankulam District.			
377	Mapanapillai, Philip	Vavuniya-Vilankulam	Vavuniya-Vilankulam	March 8, 1886	Tamil
		EASTERN PROVINCE.			
		Batticaloa District.			
378	Ampikapaker, J.	Batticaloa	Puliyantivu	March 29, 1871	Tamil
379	Crowther, J.	do.	Koddamunai	May 29, 1862	English and Tamil
380	Ismailevvai, M. S.	do.	Kattankudi	July 29, 1884	do.
381	Kariaper, A. L.	do.	Marutamunai	May 4, 1871	Tamil
382	Kanavatipillai, K.	do.	Navatkuda	April 22, 1871	do.
383	Karuveltampi, N.	do.	do.	Jan. 9, 1873	do.
384	Kantappodi, K.	do.	Naypaddemunai	July 29, 1880	do.
385	Kosumuhamatu, E.	do.	Kalmunaikudi	May 2, 1883	do.
386	Kantappah, K. G.	do.	Kalladi	Sept. 7, 1885	do.
387	Mootatampi, V.	do.	Arapattai	Jan. 15, 1870	do.
388	Masillamani, N.	do	Navetkuda	Dec. 10, 1879	do.
389	Seenitampi, N.	Eruvil, Porativu, Karavaku, Chammanturai, Manmunai north, Nintavur, Akkara, Panama pattus	Kalladi	Nov. 20, 1882	do.
390	Toussaint, P. J. C.	Batticaloa	Puliyantivu	Oct. 7, 1887	English
		Trincomalee District.			
391	Cathiravelupillai, K.	Trincomalee	Division No. 3	May 17, 1887	Tamil
392	Warunakulasinga, A. S.	do.	do. 2	July 12, 1878	English and Tamil

PROVINCE OF UVA.

	Name	District of Jurisdiction.	Place of Office	Date of Appointment.	Language in which licensed to practise
393	Jayman, A. C. M.	Badulla	Badulla	Nov. 23, 1849	English, Sinhalese, and Tamil
394	Kalu Banda, M. H.	do.	do.	June 11, 1875	Sinhalese
395	Potger, B. L.	do.	do.	Dec 10, 1863	English
396	Pichche, W. M	do.	do.	March 10, 1851	English, Sinhalese, and Tamil
397	Silva, D. B. D.	Walapone	Abanella	March 6, 1871	Sinhalese
398	Vanasekara Banda, B.	Wellassa	Bellan-oya	Sept. 9, 1870	do.
399	Vandort, W.	Badulla	Badulla	Aug 22, 1861	English
400	Welikala, D. P.	do.	Haldummulla	Nov. 6, 1869	Sinhalese

COLOMBO MUSEUM.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE COLOMBO MUSEUM FOR 1887.

NUMBER OF VISITORS.

THE total number of visitors for the year amounted to 84,321, of whom 71,470 were natives, 4,165 European residents, and 8,677 strangers. This is the largest number since 1880, and is over the average for the last ten years. Appendix A contains a detailed statement under this head.

APPOINTMENT OF A NEW COMMITTEE OF SUPERVISION.

In accordance with the regulations issued in March, 1886, by His Excellency the Governor, a new General Committee was appointed in July, 1887; and at their first meeting in August a new Sub-Committee was elected.

THE GROUNDS.

The grounds are making satisfactory progress. A hundred cartloads of coir dust were applied to the shrubberies and croton hedges in the early part of the year, which kept the soil from becoming hardened during the hot season. At the break of the north-east monsoon the beds were all thoroughly manured. The new lawnmower, ordered by the Committee from England, was chosen by Dr. Trimen, and is a great improvement on the old type of machine. I have devoted much attention to the piece of ground behind the Museum, entrusted by the Municipality to the care of the Committee whilst Dr. Anthonisz was Acting Director, and which he laid out with much taste. The cinnamon bushes have been cut to form standards, so that in time they may grow into trees. I have also planted tea and Liberian coffee, that visitors may see how all these trees grow when unpruned. A number of bamboos, palms, and flowering shrubs have also been planted. I am sorry to say the water has not yet been laid on.

CONDITION OF THE BUILDING.

As I have reported yearly since 1883, the interior of the building requires painting and varnishing; the bases of the columns and cement flooring are also much in need of repair. The Ceylon Products Room has been converted into a strong room by means of bars and padlocks for the safer keeping of the gold antiquities and jewellery.

NEW FURNITURE.

Two new bookcases have been made by the Public Works Department.

ARRANGEMENT FOR GAINING SPACE.

I have laid a proposal before the Sub-Committee for the removal of the four large wall cases in the East Gallery to the Antiquities Room, their places being supplied by four shallow cases more suitable for the exhibition of specimens in bottles. I should then propose to exhibit the smaller antiquities in the Antiquities Room; and also any collection of Kandyan articles that may be lent to us. This would place three large wall cases in the Hall at my disposal, and would give us a fair amount of space for the expansion of Ceylon products. If these arrangements are carried out, I estimate that there would be room in the East Gallery to exhibit a fairly representative collection of Ceylon fish. The cases now most urgently needed are four new wall cases for the East Gallery, four table cases for insects in the Central Gallery, and two book cases for the Library. The cost will not exceed Rs. 1,800. Of course these proposals do not in any way invalidate my remarks on the necessity for an extension of the building which I made last year. Our fine collection of sharks and skates must still remain crowded away in a back room; and the question of room for books must in a few years become very pressing.

PUBLICATIONS.

My reports to the Committee on our collection of Snakes, Lizards, Geckoes, and Frogs have been printed, but that of the Birds is still in the press. The report on the Monitors and Skinks has been long finished, but is still in manuscript. The Committee have, however, agreed to the principle of having our reports printed by private firms when funds are available. Therefore I trust that we may see it in print during the ensuing year.

I have also written a report on the Butterflies to the end of the *Nymphalidæ*, and have drawn up a hand list of all the families of this sub-order to show the extent of Mr. Mackwood's collection. A report has also been made on the Moths to the end of the *Bombycoides*. I think, however, that it would be advisable to keep these last reports in manuscript for the present. In the first place, my friend Mr. E. E. Green has furnished me with a number of valuable notes on our Lepidoptera,

which notes I hope to supplement largely, and it is desirable that as much of this information as possible should be incorporated in any published list of Ceylon Lepidoptera; secondly, it is to be hoped that the de Necéville's book on the Butterflies of India will soon be completed, and I should strongly advise that the Museum lists should be in conformity with the classification and nomenclature adopted in that work; thirdly, the Trustees of the Calcutta Museum are issuing a Catalogue of their collection of Moths, in which such genera as *Rhamphoschisma* and the like are relegated to the synonyms; and I think it will be as well to follow their lists, and therefore to wait until two or three more numbers are published. The lists of coins and minerals are also completed, and only need a final revision. I should, however, prefer seeing these lists form a part of a handbook to the Ceylon Products and Antiquities. For this purpose, if I was permitted to do so, I should like to reprint the Colonial and Indian Exhibition Handbook and Guide of the Ceylon Court, with such modifications as are necessary to adopt it as a Guide to the Museum.

CONDITION OF THE COLLECTION.

I mentioned in my last report the great difficulties I was then experiencing in preserving the Entomological collection from the attacks of fungus. I find that sponges soaked in citronella oil and placed in the cases answer better than anything yet tried. As an example of the difficulty in destroying both mites and fungus, I may mention that in one instance in which a solution of creosote and benzine was poured upon the sponges, it was quite impossible to stand over the case, when opened, for some months afterwards, the woodwork being apparently saturated with the fumes of creosote; yet not the slightest perceptible effect appeared to be produced either on the mites or funges. The treatment at present adopted is as follows:—

I.—Every insect is bathed in benzine on being removed from the setting board.
II.—If attacked by mites at any time the bath is repeated.
III.—If fungus appears, it is touched with a solution of carbolic acid in benzine.
IV.—Sponges soaked in the best citronella oil procurable are kept in the cases.

If these precautions are adopted insects gradually become proof against attack. There are some specimens in the collection between fifteen and twenty years, and many ten years old, which have been treated this way, and now give no trouble.

I attribute the virulent attack of fungus last year to the use of napthaline, which, although largely employed in European Museums, certainly tends to keep the insects damp in this climate. In the other zoological cases and in the cases in the Ceylon Products Room it is, however, used with good effect.

ON COLLECTING NATURAL HISTORY SPECIMENS.

A great improvement has been made this year in transporting the insects collected. Ordinary tobacco or butter tins have a layer of napthaline placed at the bottom, and over that a layer of cotton wool; the tin is then filled with alternate layers of insects and wool. Packed in this way they keep perfectly relaxed for a fortnight or three weeks, and can be posted to Colombo from any part of the Island. They can then be looked through, sorted, and set at leisure. This plan effects a great saving in transport, as it is no longer necessary to carry insect boxes and setting boards; and it also enables any one who is willing to collect for the Museum to do so with very little trouble and no expense. I shall also be able to establish stations about the Island, from which insects can be received from month to month, and thus some light be thrown on their distribution and natural history. Unfortunately, the reduction of the transport vote has prevented this idea being carried out during the past year.

With regard to the marine fauna, my experiences during the last few years have lead me entirely to abandon any more attempt at using the dredge as employed by Naturalists in Europe, the Ceylon boat being quite unsuited to the work. I experimented at Pánaduré with a Naturalist's dredge, reduced to one-half the size with lighter arms and the scrapers made perfectly flat—a form lately adopted by Professor Agassiz in dredging in the Gulf of Mexico. This answered much better. But in consequence of the reduction of the transport vote my opportunities for trying it were very limited. I also experimented with the Negombo trawl, which attracted my attention when stationed at Negombo some years ago. Unfortunately, I find that to make it work properly it requires a large Negombo boat and crew. Next year I propose trying the Euplectella dredge used in Fiji, and also a compound dredge and trawl of my own design.

NEW METHOD OF MOUNTING NATURAL HISTORY OBJECTS.

I have introduced a few alterations in mounting specimens. Small insects are mounted on glass circles by a process invented by Mr. Staniforth Green, and when necessary a drawing of the specimen, sufficiently enlarged to show its character, is placed beside it. A number of small insects prepared in this way are now ready for exhibition; and a small collection of beetles accompanied by drawings has been purchased. There has been great difficulty in supporting the small glass circles on which the insects are mounted, all the cements used to fix them to the pieces of cardboard through which the pins are inserted having failed; Mr. E. E. Green has, however, invented a very simple spring clip, which has overcome the difficulty.

A supply of new bottles from Germany having been received, I have commenced remounting the collection of reptiles. A flat sheet of glass is placed across the bottle backed with cotton wool, which presses the objects against the glass, so that although the bottles are round the specimens have all the appearance of being in flat bottles against a white ground, and they occupy a very much smaller space.

A collection of spiders, centipedes, and scorpions is now being prepared. They are mounted in wooden cells lined with cotton wool. In this way the almost insuperable difficulties of cementing the glass covers is overcome, the objects are kept firmly in position; and although air bubbles cannot be entirely avoided, they are of little importance; the animals also are always available for inspection and are well shown against the background of cotton wool. The same method can of course be applied to all marine forms, and I hope next year to have all our star fish, echinoderms, and crustacea exhibited in this way. A background of glass wool has a much better effect than cotton wool, but its price is prohibitory.

ON THE NEW METHOD OF PRESERVING SPECIMENS IN GUM AND GLYCERINE.

I detailed at full length in my last report the new method of preserving fish and many kinds of invertebrates by gum and glycerine, but I also stated that its use was limited on account of its excessive dehydrating effect, and also from the cost of the glycerine for mounting. I had tried from the first to overcome these difficulties by weakening the mixture, but with the result that if spirit or salt solutions were employed the gum was precipitated, and if water was used a thick crop of fungus sprung up in a few hours. I found that even a mixture of glycerine and syrup of the same specific gravity grew fungus quite as rapidly as glycerine and water alone. The great rise in the price of glycerine during the past year rendered it impossible to exhibit any more specimens in this medium, to my great disappointment, as I found that on comparing fish that had been mounted for the last three years with fresh specimens of the same species, that no loss of colour could be detected. The preservation of the colour is owing entirely to the gum, for if a prepared specimen is taken and placed in any solution which precipitates the gum, the colour is quickly lost.

Darwin relates that he was fond of trying imbecile experiments, and, notwithstanding the teaching of chemistry and his own experience that solutions of gum will not mix with alcohol, I determined to try once more whether weak spirits could not be introduced in sufficient quantity to prevent the growth of fungus. The result of the experiment was, that I found that solutions of gum and glycerine are miscible with spirit in all proportions necessary for my purpose. It had never occurred to me to stir the precipitated gum which re-dissolves readily, and hence my previous failures. I can now obtain mixtures of any specific gravity necessary, and I am preparing snakes and frogs as quickly as I can procure them to take the places of the old spirit specimens.

The solution used for mounting specimens prepared in this way is syrup reduced to the necessary specific gravity by proof spirit. I cannot say whether the colours will last as long as they do in glycerine, as I have only had six months' experience; but so far the effect is the same. Budge's solution, which is said to be quite a perfect preservative, and the celebrated solution of Wickersheimer, for which the Prussian Government gave a large sum of money, have both been tried without success. Sea water saturated with bichromate of potash has been found excellent for hardening jelly-fish.

MAMMALIA.

The reduction of the transport vote prevented my carrying out any further improvements in the Mammalia Gallery. The only species new to the collection obtained this year is a bat, *Rhinolophus affinis*, from Balaṅgoḍa. Our bats are very poorly represented, as we have only nine species out of the seventeen recorded. A fine pangolin, killed near Kóṭṭé, has been purchased: the skeleton will be mounted as soon as possible. Good specimens of the bandicoot rat, the civet cat, the palm cat (the latter presented by Mr. Thomson), have been mounted on their skeletons. I have had to unmount the whale-skull, as I found it rapidly deteriorating from exposure to the weather: it has been removed and placed with the other bones in one of the south verandahs.

BIRDS.

In my last report I gave an analysis of the bird collection to the end of the game birds. I am unable to finish it this year, as the report on this class is still in the hands of the Government Printer. Amongst the birds brought back by the Taxidermist from the North-Western Province in 1885, I found three more species new to the collection—"The Broad-billed Stint," *Limicolaplatyrhynca*, only two specimens of which have ever been before obtained in Ceylon; "Teimmuck's Stint," *Tringa Temminikii*; and the "Gray-rump Terulet," *Sterna Saundersii*. Two teals I can only suppose to be some stage of the plumage of *Anas Cercia*, but I can find no descriptions that agree with them. Two handsome donations have been received this year: a specimen of the "Ceylon Crested Falcon," *Baza ceylonensis*, presented by Mr. Armstrong, and of the "Indian Hobby," *Falcon severus*, presented by Mr. A. Taylor. A second specimen of a very rare little Scops-owl, *Scops minutus*, has been purchased. Thirdly, six specimens of birds have been mounted this year for exhibition; also the eggs of forty-four and the nests of six species. Skeletons of the Devil-bird, *Bubo nipalensis*, presented by Mr. Stephens, and of the "Black-bellied Munia," *Munia malacca*, have been set up.

REPTILES.

I now enter upon those groups of which I have the printed reports to guide me, and am able, not only to record the number of specimens added, but also what advances have been made in our knowledge of the species. *Gonatodes Kandianus*, of which we last year possessed no specimens, is now represented by thirteen examples, presented by Messrs. H. Nevill and E. E. Green: it ranges from the level of Kandy to about 4,000 ft. Another small species of this genus, which I am unable to identify, was collected at Uḍugama. Mr. Nevill kindly inspected Mr. Rossett's *Geckoes* from the Máldives: they proved to be the common species, *Hemidactylus frenatus*. *Hemidactylus triedrus* is found at least as high as Kandy. I caught *Hemidactylus depressus* at the Balaṅgoḍa resthouse, 1,730 ft. above the level of the sea. Hitherto the collection possessed Colombo specimens only. *Gehyra mulilata* proves to be quite a common lizard round Kandy. Mr. Nevill has presented eight specimens. A little *Lepidodactyla* was collected at Uḍugama, which I cannot identify. *Otiocryptis bivitata* proves to be quite common at Uḍugama, and I believe it will eventually be found that all, or nearly all, our peculiar hill species follow the line of forest-clad hills into the new tea district in the neighbourhood of Galle. Two specimens of *Ceratophora aspera*, from the same locality, were presented by Mr. E. E. Green. *Calotes nigrilabris* ascends to Nuwara Eliya. At present the Museum contains scarcely any specimens of the fauna of this locality. A second specimen of *Calotes liocephalus* has been presented by Mr. J. Asphar. Unfortunately it is a very young one. Our first specimen of *Calotes liolepis*, from Pundalu-oya, has been presented by Mr. E. E. Green. A curious variety of *Calotes ophiomachus* was collected at Uḍugama. There are ten species of Skinks recorded from Ceylon in Dr. Boulenger's Catalogues, in addition to which there is one species of *Mabonia* and one of *Lygosoma*, which I am unable to identify. Our other lizards, the chameleon, the iguana, and the monitor, are all well represented.

Mr. E. E. Green presented a second specimen of the very rare snake *Oligodon templetonii*, from Uḍugama. Our common freshwater snake *Atretium schistosum* is found at Kandy; and it will be very interesting to know how much higher it ascends. A specimen of the rare *Dendrophis candolineata* was collected at Uḍugama, and a young specimen purchased from Balaṅgoḍa; the young differs greatly in colour from the adult. Mr. J. L. Samson presented a most remarkable variety of *Dipsas forsteni*, from Kalutara. Two more specimens of *Hydrophis Ellioti* have been purchased—both from the west coast. Two other fine specimens of sea-snakes have also been purchased—one from Hikkaḍuwa, the other from Colombo. I cannot identify either with any species described in the "Snakes of British India." The specimen of *Hydrophis Stokesii*, presented by Captain Donnan many years ago, has been mounted as a skeleton, and forms a very interesting exhibit.

FROGS.

Our Colombo frog, *Rana hexadactyla*, is found at least as high as 4,000 ft.; also the equally common *Rana gracilis*. *Racophorus verrucosus*, a species not hitherto recorded from Ceylon, has been presented by Mr. Nevill, from Kandy; it is also found at Pundalu-oya. *Ixalus hypomelas* is found also at Pundalu-oya, as are also *leucorrhinus* and *schmardanus*. Our first specimens of *Ixalus nasutus* have been presented by Dr. Trimen and Mr. Nevill; and two specimens of *Ixalus femoralis* have been received—one from Maskeliya, presented by Mr. Forster, and the other purchased from Balaṅgoḍa. Our first specimen of *Ixalus adspersus*, from Pundalu-oya, a second of *Nannophrys ceylonensis*, from Uḍugama, and also *Callula obscura*, from Pundalu-oya, have been presented by Mr. E. E. Green. A little species of *Bufo* has been collected at Uḍugama, which I am unable to identify, as also a small frog presented by Mr. Asphar. These new frogs raise the number recorded from Ceylon to thirty-eight, of which thirty are represented in the collection.

FISH.

One skate new to the collection, *Myliobatus maculata*, has been added by purchase. Two species, *Aphareus rutilans* and *Pomacentrus chrysopœcilus*, must be added to Day's List of Indian fish; also a species of *Cristiceps*, which I cannot identify, and which is probably new to science. This genus has not been recorded from the Indian seas before. *Pelor didactylus* is an interesting addition to the Ceylon fauna: it has not before been found nearer than the Andaman Islands. Two new wrasses have also been purchased in the Colombo market, neither of which I have been able to identify. But the most remarkable addition is the sword of a *Xiphias* which was caught at Hikkaḍuwa in January. The fishermen had fortunately preserved the sword, and also made me an excellent drawing of the fish from memory. It is probably the common Mediterranean species, and must have come either through the Suez Canal or round the Cape: probably the former.

Mr. Hicks has presented nine species of fish from Minicoy, five of which, *Tetrodon maculatus*, *Thispidus*, *Balistes aculeatus*, *Gomphosus pectoralis*, and *Grammistes orientalis* are new to the collection. There is also a second specimen of *Genyoroge macolor*; thus extending the geographical distribution of this rare fish three hundred miles further west.

Mr. E. E. Green has presented three species of freshwater fish from Uḍugama of the genera *Gobius*, *Cirrhites*, and *Perilampus*, but I cannot identify any of them. Mr. Le Mesurier has presented, what I think can be little doubt is the celebrated Mahaseer of India, *Barbus tor*. *Labeo porcellus*, from the Puttalam district, has been identified at Berlin; these two species of carp must therefore be added to the Ceylon fauna. Six other species of freshwater fish have been added to the collection: *Discognathus lamta*, *Discognathus* ——— ? *Nemacheilus notostigma*, *Nemacheilus* ——— ? *Barbus stigma*, and *Rasbora danicornis*.

Mr. Steyn has presented an interesting specimen of *Syngnathus intermedius*, a male with the egg-pouch full of eggs, from the Colombo harbour.

INSECTS.

Hymenoptera.—No additions have been made to this order during the past year.

Diptera.—I am at present arranging the flies, which were withdrawn from exhibition with the duplicates. The collection is in very bad order, and in my opinion it is of little use trying to preserve the *Diptera* here in a dry state: the abdomens shrivel and lose shape, the muscular thorax becomes dry and brittle, and the heads have a tendency to fall off at the least touch. I propose to keep all future additions in fluid, mounted like the reptiles in small bottles or test tubes, and I think that all but the very smallest specimens will show admirably.

Lepidoptera.—Mr. Mackwood's collection having been offered to the Museum for £100 sterling, the Committee recommended the Government to purchase it: £50 was paid from the Museum Contingencies Vote and £50 by a special vote. The arrival of the collection entailed the entire re-arrangement of our exhibited specimens, as besides containing numerous additions it was superior in every way to our own. Mr. Mackwood's duplicate collection is kept apart. We have 1,351 specimens of butterflies, representing 258 species. Only four species recorded by Moore are unrepresented. I need not mention the valuable new specimens brought back by the Taxidermist from the North-Western Province last year, nor several purchases made in the early part of this, as, of course, Mr. Mackwood's collection has supplied us with duplicates of all of them. The moths are exhibited to the end of the *Bombycoides*. Of the 235 species recorded in Moore's work, 193 are represented by 830 specimens.

We have a number of Larvæ exhibited, prepared for us by Mr. E. E. Green. These are shown in the cases with the images of their respective species, and add greatly both to the beauty and interest of the exhibition.

Coleoptera.—With regard to our beetles, half the exhibited specimens have had to be removed for the greater extension of Lepidoptera, and the necessary re-arrangement of the duplicate boxes consequent on their removal has only proceeded as far as the *Carabidæ*. As I reported on this family last year, I need not review it again. The new species added to the collection are very few, as far as I have been able to examine them, and consist of five Longicornes, one of great size and beauty, but, unfortunately, much damaged—one Mordellid, one Cistellid, and one Buprestid, all from Balaṅgoḍa; but there are probably numerous additions amongst the small species mounted on glass, which are principally *Staphylinidæ* and *Phytophaga*. Professor Jacoby's Paper on

Mr. Lewis's Ceylon collection of the latter group has been received. Eighty-nine of the species described are new to science. I have not as yet had time to look at the Museum collection or institute any comparison.

Neuroptera.—All the *Neuroptera* have been removed, thoroughly cleaned, and re-exhibited; there are ninety-one species in the collection, of which only twelve are named. The only new addition has been a species of May-fly.

Orthoptera.—The *Orthoptera* have also had to be removed and re-exhibited. The collections contain twenty species of *Forficulidæ*, none of which have been named.

There are thirty-eight species of *Blattidæ*; about the same number of *Accrididæ*. I cannot say how many of them are named yet, as the Vienna list has only just arrived, and I have not yet completed the comparison of the duplicates numbered uniformly with it. This list, kindly made for me by the Baron Brunner Von Wattenwyl, the greatest authority on *Orthoptera*, from a collection sent to him, shows the impossibility in the present state of Entomology of naming insects without reference to European collections. Some years ago I constructed a list of the *Orthoptera* recorded from Ceylon from the British Museum lists, and identified a number of our species. The authority, however, of the late Mr. Walker is so entirely rejected by all European Entomologists, that I do not think the Baron's list contains a single name in common with my manuscript, although, of course, some of them may be synonymous. Several of our species prove to be either South Australian or Javanese, and others are quite new to science, and have yet to be described.

Phasmidæ.—Some very important additions have been made to the *Mantidæ* and *Phasmidæ* this year, notably two very remarkable species presented by Dr. Trimen and Mr. E. E. Green.

Rhyncota.—One hundred and forty-four selected species of this order are exhibited, thirty-one of which have been named by Mr. Atkinson. The only addition of any importance is a fine new species of *Cecada*, from Balangoda. The greater part of this order, all the *Hymenoptera* and *Diptera*, more than one-half the *Coleoptera*, and a number of *Phasmidæ*, are not exhibited. I was induced to remove these orders and to extend the exhibition of the *Lepidoptera*, because I was led to believe on high authority that a sufficient number of cases for all pressing needs would be provided in future; however, the vote of £500 granted to us for furniture in 1886 was struck out of the Estimates for this year.

Myriapoda and *Arachnida.*—I have spoken of these classes under the head "Mounting." The progress made in collecting specimens will necessarily depend on the amount of the transport vote.

CRUSTACEA.

The arrival of Mr. Myers' report on the Crustacea of the Challenger Expedition has enabled me to report on our collection of *Decapoda*. As there is not the slightest chance, apparently, of getting this paper through the press for quite an indefinite time, I asked the editor of the "Taprobanian" to publish it in his Journal, which he has kindly consented to do. A number of our species have been identified at Berlin. The specimens prepared by gum and glycerine are keeping admirably, but they would look much better mounted in fluid, which I hope to be able to do early next year.

Dr. Brady has described the specimens of *Entomostraca* I sent to him some years ago in the Lin. Soc. Journal, XIX. Thirty-eight specimens: thirty-two new to science.

MOLLUSCA.

What I had to say last year on this class only occupied a few lines, and my report this year will be equally brief. There is, however, no part of the zoological collection which has entailed more work. Mr. Nevill very kindly consented to come down to Colombo to name as many of our species as possible; this necessitated the removal, and, as it eventually proved, the re-mounting and re-labelling of the whole collection: 552 species are now named, and nearly all the specimens referred to their proper genera.

BRACHIOPODA.

A species of *Lingula*, presented by the Hon. Mr. Ravenscroft, is the only specimen of this class I have as yet seen from Ceylon.

ECHINODERMATA.

Two very fine specimens of star fish have been added to the collection this year, one from Negombo and one from Trincomalee, and a very curious little species parasitic on a large jelly fish. I find that these animals do not keep well unless mounted in fluid: not only do they fade, but some of them decay; the collection is, therefore, being remounted. The sea at Trincomalee is extremely rich in species of this class, the bottom at places being literally covered with feather stars. I was unable, however, to find any means of preserving them in such a way as to give any idea of their beauty. Whether my new methods of preserving marine organisms will be successful in their case remains to be seen.

CORALS.

Two very fine new blocks of coral were collected at Trincomalee. I hesitated to incur the expense of bringing them to Colombo with my greatly reduced means of transport, being uncertain whether the species was not already represented in the Museum; but both of them proved to be new, and are remarkably handsome specimens. In some way, which I cannot understand, the numbers on the duplicates of the species sent to Berlin do not correspond with the list given by the authorities there. As the blocks had been split in half, and each half painted at once with the same number, it is impossible to account for the discrepancy. I have since forwarded a box of chips of all our species, and begged the Berlin authorities to return them named. Captain Donnan has presented some fine specimens collected on the Pearl Banks, and several additions have been made by purchase. The tree corals are exhibited under glass on the tops of the insect cases. Four species of *Gorgonia* have been named at Berlin, and two are reported to be probably new to science. One *Hydrozoid* has also been named. A complete set of our spongy *Alcyonids* have been forwarded to Berlin in spirits.

SPONGES.

As I anticipated in my last report, the exhibited sponges have had to be removed from want of space. Seven species sent to Berlin have been referred to as many genera, but the species themselves have not been determined. Of these genera only one is mentioned by Mr. Dendy in his Report on the Sponge Fauna of Madras.

MINERALS.

Mr. Brown kindly lent me his specific gravity balance, thus enabling me to verify the names of a number of our gems. Mr. Armitage has also given me his valuable assistance in this work, and has also been a liberal donor; he has placed his rock section cutting machine at my disposal, and I have placed a boy under his supervision to cut sections and polish rocks.

There are 226 specimens of mineral on the list. The most valuable addition received this year is a specimen of Pitchblende, from Gokaralla, presented by Mr. Jacob De Mel; this is a most valuable ore of Uranium. I paid a visit to Kuchavelli, to see the spot where the fossil crabs are collected. The collection of these fossils is quite a business amongst the natives in the villages, partly as curiosities for sale at Trincomalee, and partly because when powdered they are highly valued by the vedarálas. The whole coast is intersected with drainage channels, leading from the iceland lagoons to the sea, and one would naturally expect to find the same phenomenon in all of them, but it is only in the one which I suppose represents the mouth of the Palenti-áru that I could find anything of the sort; here the sandy bed of the river is thickly strewn with nodules of hardened mud, in which sticks, shells, and coral are found imbedded with thousands of Placuna shells, and many species of marine shells. The Placunas live up the river some miles inland. I procured one or two live specimens with some difficulty, but to the locality from which the fossils are washed out I could find no clue. The native tales are of the most extraordinary description; and the whole of this interesting subject requires careful investigation. I made a good representative collection of this curious formation. It is to be noted that Milne Edwards, in his "Histoire Naturelle dès Crustacès" (1834), mentions some fossil crabs, answering fairly well to the Kuchavelli specimens. He gives India as the locality, so it is not at all improbable that he may have been describing an actual specimen from Kuchavelli.

ANTIQUITIES.

Mr. Burrows discovered six metal plaques in the northern chapel of the Jétawanáráma dágoba at Anurádhapura, which have been forwarded to the Museum by Government. A number of small antiquities, discovered by Mr. Boake at Tirukéswaram, have also been received, and a selection of them is exhibited in the Hall. A head of Buddha in stone and a figure of Ganesa from the same locality have been placed in the Antiquities Room. Two little bronzes, one of Buddha and the other of the child Krishna, have been presented by the Government Agent, Kurunégala.

COINS.

The whole of the coins have been removed from the gallery and re-exhibited in the Ceylon Products Room. On the list there are 29 ancient coins found in Ceylon, 19 coins of the kings of Ceylon, 9 Indo-Portuguese, 212 Dutch, 28 English, and 6 Máldivians—292 issues in all. Mr. Bell has presented 32 challies new to the collection; Mr. Van Starrex, 2 remarkable ancient coins. Eight coins, some of the reign of Honorius, found on the Galle Face, have been purchased. The others new to the collection are silver coins of 1725, 1765, and 1807, purchased. A four-stuiver of 1804 and one-stuiver pieces of 1770 and 1781 have been obtained by exchange.

CEYLON PRODUCTS.

A collection of jewellery and brass and silver work has been received from the Colonial and Indian Exhibition, and has necessitated a re-arrangement of the Ceylon Products Room. By hanging the mats on the upper walls of the Hall, placing the large masks on the top of the mask case, and removing the pictures altogether, I have gained the necessary space in which to exhibit them.

Two hundred bottles for the exhibition of products, like those used for the same purpose at the Colonial and Indian Exhibition, have been received, and on their arrival I immediately made several applications to different firms for specimens of Ceylon products. As yet, however, only tea from Agar's Land, presented by Mr. Shelton Agar, and native coffee, presented by Messrs. Freüdenberg & Co., have arrived. Mr. Twynam's collection of tobacco has been mounted in these bottles; also a specimen of tobacco grown at the Model Farm, presented by Mr. E. Peries. A number of interesting Kandyan articles have been purchased, and a large addition made to the collection of pottery. Mr. Wikkramasiṇha went to Kandy to procure musical instruments, and succeeded in adding several interesting specimens to the collection.

LOAN COLLECTIONS.

The principle of accepting loan collections has been adopted this year for the first time, although it has been frequently under discussion by the Committee. The difficulty in procuring antiquities, their rapidly increasing rarity, so eagerly are they competed for by collectors, make these loan collections peculiarly acceptable. Mr. W. W. De Abrew Rájapáksa has a few interesting articles of the middle of the eighteenth century. We have also received a magnificent loan collection from Mr. George Gordon-Cumming, which fills one of the Hall cases and half a table case in the Ceylon Products Room.

TRANSPORT.

In my last report I expressed a hope that, considering the great changes taking place in all parts of the Island through the opening up of new land for cultivation, and the consequent extinction of our indigenous fauna, the transport vote would be increased.

The reply made to this appeal was the reduction of the small sum of Rs. 2,000 to the totally inadequate sum of Rs. 1,000. I have sufficiently referred above to the short excursions undertaken this year.

EXPENDITURE.

The cost of the Colombo Museum for 1887 has been as follows :—

	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Salaries	—		11,590	0
Contingencies :—				
Purchase of books	1,133	76		
Binding books	114	90		
Petty expenses	253	81		
Stationery	59	84		
Maintenance of grounds	1,252	26		
For specimens	2,163	8		
Preparing, preserving, and mounting specimens ...	2,809	12		
For furniture	593	4		
Pay of collectors	359	60		
			8,739	41
Transport	—		997	3
Total ...	—		21,266	44

A. HALY,
Director.

Colombo Museum, April 23, 1888.

APPENDIX.

Statement showing the Number of Visitors.

	Natives.		European Residents.		Strangers.		
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Total.
January 1 to 8 ...	715	491	97	84	104	50	1,541
„ 9 to 15 ...	637	348	66	35	145	82	1,313
„ 16 to 22 ...	591	282	67	47	108	45	1,140
„ 23 to 29 ...	831	479	127	78	112	45	1,672
„ 30 to 5 ...	838	437	93	51	104	39	1,562
February 6 to 12 ...	688	324	64	33	71	50	1,230
„ 13 to 19 ...	700	404	111	46	211	64	1,536
„ 20 to 26 ...	1,270	213	32	8	214	49	1,786
„ 27 to 5 ...	577	268	98	31	143	71	1,188
March 6 to 12 ...	675	235	49	25	196	100	1,280
„ 13 to 19 ...	469	149	44	21	142	75	900
„ 20 to 26 ...	749	305	41	25	90	20	1,230
„ 27 to 2 ...	581	324	103	55	327	183	1,483
April 3 to 9 ...	600	231	45	34	256	44	1,210
„ 10 to 16 ...	613	335	54	28	368	164	1,562
„ 17 to 23 ..	617	240	44	21	89	43	1,054
„ 24 to 30 ...	512	203	23	11	226	93	1,068
May 1 to 7 ...	1,188	424	84	54	106	48	1,904
„ 8 to 14 ...	637	333	56	36	90	27	1,179
„ 15 to 21 ...	975	304	96	40	212	118	1,745
„ 22 to 28 ...	751	304	21	22	39	14	1,151
„ 29 to 4 ...	1,049	318	68	27	137	28	1,627
June 5 to 11 ...	1,417	952	27	19	95	16	2,526
„ 12 to 18 ...	890	286	50	30	99	32	1,387
„ 19 to 25 ...	8,019	1,134	25	10	66	21	9,275
„ 26 to 2 ...	1,629	954	43	28	44	25	2,723
July 3 to 9 ...	1,432	952	15	16	99	11	2,525
„ 10 to 16 ...	1,210	878	43	48	51	16	2,246
„ 17 to 23 ...	1,298	716	26	19	70	23	2,152
„ 24 to 30 ...	1,263	767	42	38	45	23	2,178
„ 31 to 6 ...	1,280	423	17	6	23	4	1,753
August 7 to 13 ...	873	183	22	8	99	44	1,229
„ 14 to 20 ...	655	382	27	7	91	34	1,196
„ 21 to 27 ...	707	237	25	11	57	13	1,050
„ 28 to 3 ...	2,884	292	15	10	80	11	3,292
Sept. 4 to 10 ...	681	307	25	28	126	24	1,191
„ 11 to 17 ...	575	173	24	16	39	10	837
„ 18 to 24 ...	730	307	20	17	72	24	1,170
„ 25 to 1 ...	537	126	4	7	69	18	761
October 2 to 8 ...	615	273	17	12	138	52	1,107
„ 9 to 15 ...	543	204	50	34	155	25	1,011
„ 16 to 22 ...	599	190	16	16	107	42	970
„ 23 to 29 ...	500	219	50	57	111	57	994
„ 30 to 5 ...	615	142	38	24	136	69	1,024
Nov. 6 to 12 ...	1,470	345	103	41	167	45	2,171
„ 13 to 19 ...	1,057	533	111	48	173	97	2,019
„ 20 to 26 ...	772	398	137	30	231	43	1,611
„ 27 to 3 ...	681	278	23	16	44	12	1,054
Dec. 4 to 10 ...	649	286	70	29	140	59	1,233
„ 11 to 17 ...	739	282	57	14	122	65	1,279
„ 18 to 24 ...	666	139	46	14	77	18	960
„ 25 to 31 ...	571	350	40	9	45	21	1,036
Total ...	51,820	19,659	2,691	1,474	6,271	2,406	84,321

REPORT ON THE LIBRARY OF THE COLOMBO MUSEUM FOR 1887.

LIBRARY STAFF.

THIS is the first subject in order of importance, for, until there is a sufficient staff, it will be impossible to do justice to the work.

At present the staff is inadequate to do what is required in regard to the Library alone, considering the extra work before us in arranging the books, registering them, and making catalogues of them. When this has been done and everything is in order, the staff at its present strength will probably be sufficient until the Library shall have been considerably increased. But, in addition to the Library work, all the official non-scientific business of the Department passes through the Library, and has to be done here. This inconvenient practice entails so much extra labour on my assistant and myself, that we are unable to devote enough time to the Library. At my suggestion the Sub-Committee added Rs. 480 to the Estimates for 1888 for the salary of a clerk, but the money has not been voted. It is clear that an increase to the Museum Establishment is needed, and that clerical assistance must be given. The only question is, where this help is to be bestowed. There are two alternatives: the Director might be provided with an Assistant and one or two clerks, with whose help he could dispose of all the official work of the Department, correspondence, returns, finances, and accounts, and, above all, whose services he could utilise in connection with the vast amount of scientific work that falls to his share. This would release me from all concern with the Museum, and leave me and my staff free to attend to our own business in the Library. It may be thought, however, that this is too expensive a change to be effected at present, though the separation of the Library from the rest of the Museum will in a few years more be unavoidable. The other alternative is to strengthen my staff, so that I may be better able to cope both with my work as Librarian and with the official work of the Department. This being the cheaper course is, I suppose, the one most likely to be adopted. It is far, however, from being the best, since the combination of the duties of Librarian and Assistant Director in one person is not satisfactory.

READERS.

This year there were 416 readers. The yearly average from 1878 to 1886 was 229, and the highest number for any single year during the period was 397, in 1879.

Twenty new readers were admitted in 1887, and nine fresh tickets were issued to old readers.

It is satisfactory to find that the Library is beginning to be more generally used. The number of persons who avail themselves of the privileges offered will, I expect, increase in proportion as the public learn that the Library is open to them. Strange to say, the existence of a free Public Library seems to be unknown to the majority of the residents in Colombo, although it has been open for more than ten years. I have met many educated men who had been for more than a decade in Colombo, but who knew nothing about the Library. So far as its usefulness is concerned, it is to be regretted that it is situated at so great a distance from the centre of the town. This prevents many people from coming to read, who would otherwise do so.

Persons desiring to be admitted as readers have merely to send to the Committee of the Museum an application recommended by two persons of respectability, and thereupon, if sanctioned by the Committee, a "Reader's Ticket" is issued to him or her.

It may be well to point out here the advantages of being a reader. The Library contains about 3,000 volumes, and as no kind of literature, save fiction, is excluded, the collection is varied. Besides the books belonging to the Museum Library, those of the Ceylon Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society are available to readers. The collection contains many rare and costly works. In the matter of periodical publications the readers have the following:—The Orientalist, Taprobanian, Tropical Agriculturist, Engineer, Journal of Botany, Annals and Magazine of Natural History, English Mechanic and World of Science, Scientific American, and Supplement to the Scientific American.

LENDING BOOKS.

The rules passed by the Sub-Committee in September, 1886, provide that a student requiring the use of one or more works from the Library should submit a written application for the same, and that if it be granted the books should be forwarded to him on his prepaying the cost of postage or freight. All books so issued have to be returned at the end of the quarter in the course of which they are taken out, and they have to be returned in time to reach the Library on or before March 30, June 29, September 29, or December 30, as the case may be. Under these rules, eighty-six books, twelve numbers of periodicals, and one ola manuscript were issued in 1887, and they have all been safely returned, though I must admit that a few of the borrowers were not punctual in sending back the works that had been lent to them.

The *Théra Gáthá Aṭṭhakathá*—a commentary on *Théra Gáthá*, one of the sub-divisions of the *Khuddaka Nikáya* of the *Sutta Piṭaka*—is being copied from our manuscript for the Vidyódaya College Library.

CATALOGUING.

I record with regret my inability to do more than make a commencement in this direction this year.

The amalgamation of the two Libraries—those of the Museum and of the Ceylon Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society—has been begun, and it is evident that it will be an improvement.

The same difficulties complained of under the head "Library Staff" meet us here, and I have found it impossible to do justice to the work when having to attend to the general Museum business as well. In addition, we have had much of our time taken up in continuing the task mentioned in my report for 1886, namely, the arranging of the records of the Museum. This has proved a more arduous undertaking than I anticipated.

FURNITURE.

Two book-cases were provided this year at a cost of Rs. 593·04, and were placed in the Reading Room. They do not, however, provide sufficient accommodation, and it is essential that the Library should soon be provided with a sufficiency of cases, for without them there cannot be a proper arrangement of the books, nor will it be possible to keep them in order. The time has arrived for providing the full complement of book-cases.

ACCESSIONS: PRINTED BOOKS.

A list of books received during the year is annexed. Rs. 1,133·76 have been expended on the purchase of books, and Rs. 114·90 on book-binding.

As will be seen on reference to the list, the Library has received many valuable donations in the course of the year.

A copy of every book printed in Ceylon, and registered under Ordinance No. 1 of 1885, has been presented to the Library by the Ceylon Government. This is an unwieldy collection, and puzzling to arrange. It is, however, an important and welcome donation. I will not comment on the works received lest I should make this report too long, but, as will be observed, many of the works received seem to call for some remarks upon them.

I began this year a translation into English of the interesting work of Juan Rodriguez de Saa y Menezes, entitled "Rebelion de Ceylan, y los progressos de su conquista en el gobierno de Constantino de Saa y Norona," printed at Lisbon in 1681. It is one of the books purchased for the Library in 1886. Owing to want of time I was obliged to abandon the undertaking. It has, however, fallen into abler hands than mine, for Major St. George has, I am glad to say, promised to make a translation of the work. Particular interest is lent to this Portuguese account of the wars of the period between the Siṇhalese and Portuguese, as there exist several Siṇhalese histories of the same events.

The Library possesses many ancient Portuguese and Dutch works containing references to Ceylon, and I regret that, owing to the insufficiency of my staff, I have no leisure to translate and publish the information given therein, which would, I think, prove valuable to students of Ceylonese History.

On the whole, since the Library was established, Rs. 8,879·47 have been expended on the purchase of books, including ola manuscripts, and Rs. 1,317·4 on binding. In addition to this, the Government, between 1870 and 1882, specially devoted more than Rs. 30,000 to the formation and preservation of the collection of old manuscripts.

OLA MANUSCRIPTS.

The collection of manuscripts in this Library was classified in 1877 by the late Louis de Zoysa, Maha Mudaliyár, as follows :—

A.—Texts of the canonical scriptures of Buddhism.

B.—Miscellaneous religious works, such as *Aṭṭhakathá* (commentaries on the Sacred Text), *Tíka* (commentaries on the *Aṭṭhakathá*) and other religious works of a general nature.

C.—Historical works : legendary tales, &c.

D.—Philological works.

E.—Poetry.

F.—Miscellaneous works : scientific, medical, &c.

A.—*Canonical Texts.*

Our copy of the texts in Siṇhalese characters of the Buddhist scriptures, or *Tripiṭaka*, which consists of *Vinaya Piṭaka*, *Sutta Piṭaka*, and *Abhidhamma Piṭaka*, is incomplete. The following portions are wanted to complete it :—

Dígha Nikáya of *Sutta Piṭaka.*		
Anguttara Nikáya	*do.*	
Dhamma Pada of *Kuddhaka Nikáya* of *Sutta Piṭaka.*		
Udána	*do.*	*do.*
Thera Gátha	*do.*	*do.*
Niddesa	*do.*	*do.*
Paṭisambhidá Magga	*do.*	*do.*
Apadána	*do.*	*do.*

and the whole of *Abhidhamma Piṭaka.*

The books that are here already are imperfect, and need revision. It will be necessary, for this purpose, to seek the assistance of learned Buddhist priests. I am sure that some of those from the Vidyódaya College would be good enough to help us.

B.—*Commentaries.*

The collection of these religious works will be complete, so far as De Zoysa's "Catalogue of Siṇhalese, Páli, and Sanskrit Manuscripts" goes, when the few missing commentaries (*Aṭṭhakathás* and *Tíkas*) on the *Piṭakas* are added.

C.—*Historical Works.*

There are about fifty manuscripts here, but many more have to be added. No time should be lost in completing this part of our manuscript collection. Books of this kind are rare, and yet are of comparatively little interest to their owners; and the sooner they, or copies of them, are safely housed in the Library, the better.

My assistant having heard of a remarkable copy of the *Rájawaliya*, which was said to differ from the ordinary version, and to be in the possession of a man living near Galle, I wrote to the Government Agent about it; but he informed me he was unable to procure the book, as it had been lost.

D. and E.—*Philological and Poetical Works.*

There are seventy-six manuscripts of this sort; they are of great use to students of Siṇhalese, Páli, and Sanskrit. It is satisfactory to note that many persons have of late referred to these works. A few more only have to be added to the collection in order to make it complete, so far as our knowledge of the subject goes; and it is hoped that the missing works may be obtained in the course of a year or two.

F.—*Miscellaneous: Scientific, Medical, &c.*

There are only ten works of this class in the Library, but many more are known to exist. Unfortunately, De Zoysa's "Catalogue of Páli, Siṇhalese, and Sanskrit Manuscripts in the Temple Libraries of Ceylon" is incomplete, in so far as regards this branch of the subject, for section "H, *Miscellaneous*," which is referred to in the preface, is omitted from the Catalogue. I have thought of supplementing this omission, as far as possible, by circulating a paper with the names of our ten books amongst the pandits and learned Buddhist priests of the Island, asking them to add to it the names and descriptions of any more works of the kind with which they may be acquainted. This would be useful to Oriental scholars generally, and would assist us in completing the collection of manuscripts in the Library.

THE ARRANGEMENT OF THE MANUSCRIPTS.

The ola manuscripts, which were in a state of confusion, have been arranged, and many of them re-labelled, by my assistant. They look better, and are easier to find than formerly; still he is not content, but is anxious to go through them again. Mr. Wikkramasiṇha fears that the following manuscripts are missing, but he will not be certain until he has again examined the collection:—

A 64.—*Viduru Játaka Sanne* (Siṇhalese).
B 14.—*Maháwaṇsa Tíka* (Burmese characters).
C 14.—*Sótabba Málini* (Páli).

They are all mentioned in the Catalogue compiled ten years ago. I have made inquiries of the retired Library Attendant, but he has been unable to help me. There should be three copies of the *Maháwaṇsa Tíka*, in Siṇhalese, Burmese, and Siamese characters, respectively, and it seems that the Burmese copy is missing.

A NEW CATALOGUE OF THE MANUSCRIPTS.

Owing to the many additions made since the compilation of the last Catalogue, a new edition of it is required.

The greater facilities now afforded to readers have caused a considerable increase, I am pleased to say, in the number of Buddhist priests and other Siṇhalese-speaking students who make use of the Library. The English Catalogue of manuscripts is almost useless to them, and a Siṇhalese version is therefore necessary.

ACCESSIONS: OLA MANUSCRIPTS.

I am indebted to my able and zealous assistant for the following list of manuscripts, almost all of which have been added to our collection through his exertions:—

SECTION B.

Atthasálini.—Commentary on *Dhammasaṇgani Pakaraṇa*, by Buddhaghósa Thera, 410–432 A.D.
Atthasálini Tíka.—Scholia *(tíka)* on the above-mentioned one.
Abhidhammattha Saṇgaha Tíka.—Commentary on *Abhidhammatta Saṇgaha.*
Bhikkúni Pacit Aṭṭhakathá.—Commentary on *Bhikkúni Pacittiyam*, by Buddhaghósa Thera.
Cúlapáli Aṭṭhakathá.—Commentary on *Cúla Vaggo.*
Mahá Vaggo Aṭṭhakathá.—Commentary on *Mahá-Vaggo.*
Parivráṭṭhakathá.—Commentary on *Parivárapáṭha.*
Pacit Aṭṭhakathá.—Commentary on *Pacittiyam.*

All these are Páli works, written in Burmese characters: they were purchased for the Library.

Simá Saṇkara Vinó-dani [Páli].—On the rules of conduct of the Buddhist clergy. Copied from a manuscript in Elláwala Raṭémahatmaya's Library.

SECTION C.

Ankoṭa Haṭana [Siṇ.].—A poetical account of a Sollean invasion of Ceylon.

Gajábáhaṭana [Siṇ.].—A poetical account of an invasion by Gajá Báhu, of the country of Solee (probably the Mysore district).

Konstantinu Haṭana [Siṇ.].—A poetical account of the war in Uva between the Portuguese under their General, Constantino de Saa y Norofia, and the Siṇhalese under Rájasiṇha II., 1634–1684 A.D.

Mahahaṭana [Siṇ.].—A poetical account of the wars between Rájasiṇha II. and the Portuguese.

Kirimeṭiyáwagepota [Siṇ.].—Another poetical account of these wars.

Kawumutuhara [Siṇ.].—A poem on Buddha's alms-bowl and the story of Kancana Dévi, by Kiramba Dhammánanda Thera. Transcribed from a manuscript in Elláwala Raṭémahatmaya's Library.

Kaḍaimpota [Siṇ.].—On the boundaries of the ancient districts, villages, towns, &c., of Ceylon. Copied from a manuscript lent by Mr. Paranátelle, of Kandy.

Rájasiṇha Varṇanáwa [Siṇ.].—A eulogistic account of Rájasiṇha II., in poetry. Copied from a manuscript in Mr. H. C. P. Bell's Library.

Siyamópasampadáwata [Siṇ.].—On the introduction of the Siamese ordination of Buddhists priests in 1764 A.D., by Kirti Sri Rájasiṇha, who reigned at Kandy. It is written in mixed Siṇhalese by Buddha Rakshita, the Chief *Thera* of the temple *Upósathárama* and a pupil of the previous Hierarch Veliwiṭiye Saranaṇkara. It narrates the history of the time. It is not included in De Zoysa's Catalogue. Copied from a manuscript lent by Hégoḍa Sumangala Therunnánse, of Galle.

Saṇgarájóttama Sáducharitáwa [Siṇ.].—A biography of the afore-mentioned Veliwiṭiye Saranaṇkara Thera, who flourished in the reign of Kirti Sri Rájasiṇha, 1747–81 A.D. This was written about the same time as the *Siyamópasampadáwata*, and recounts many of the important events of the period. This too is not mentioned in De Zoysa's Catalogue.

SECTION E.

Kuvéni Asna [Siṇ.].—Story of Kuvéni and King Vijaya in blank verse. Presented by Mr. Hugh Nevill, M.C.S.

Heladiwa Abidánawata [Siṇ.].—A vocabulary of Eḷu words. Transcribed from a copy in Mr. H. C. P. Bell's Library.

Bhakti Sataka Sanne, or *Baudhiya Sataka Sanne*.—This is a Sanskrit work, with a Sinhalese paraphrase, by Sumangala Thera, a pupil of the celebrated Poet Totagamuwe Sri Ráhula, of the poem *Bhakti Sataka*, a eulogium on Buddha, composed by Mukunda Chandra Bharati, a Brahmin, of Gauda (probably Calcutta, according to Mr. James de Alwis), on his conversion to Buddhism in Ceylon about the time of Párakrama Báhu VI., of Kóttá, 1410–1462 A.D. This also is not included in De Zoysa's Catalogue.

Library, Colombo Museum,
April 30, 1888.

FREDERICK H. M. CORBET,
Librarian.

LIST OF BOOKS REFERRED TO,
MUSEUM COLLECTIONS.

Printed Books.

Annales de la Société Entomologique de France, 4e série, Vol. X., 1870, supplement, La Famille des Eucnemides, par H. de Bonvouloir. Purchased.

Annals and Magazine of Natural History, 5th series, Vols. XIX. and XX., 1887. Purchased.

Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, History of the 1st Battalion Princess Louise's. By Lieut.-Colonel H. G. Robley and P. G. Aubin. Cape Town, 1883. Presented by Colonel Robley.

Berliner Entomologische Zeitschrift, Vol. XXVI., Parts I. and II. for 1882. Two volumes. Purchased.

Botany, Journal of, Vol. XXV., 1887. Purchased.

British Museum, General Guide to the, (Natural History). By W. H. Flower. Presented by the Trustees.

Bug, Green Scale, Observations on the, in connection with the cultivation of Coffee. Pamphlet. By E. E. Green. Presented by the Ceylon Government.

Calcutta Review, Index to the First Fifty Volumes of the. Two parts. *Calcutta*, 1873. Presented by the Ceylon Government.

Ceylon Administration Reports for 1885. Presented by the Ceylon Government.

Ceylon Calendars, The, for the years 1817, 1819, 1820, 1821, 1822, and 1825. Presented by the Ceylon Government.

Ceylon, Legislative Enactments of, Vol. IV., Part II., No. 9 of 1886—No. 7 of 1887. Presented by the Ceylon Government.

Ceylon, Lepidoptera of, Part XIII. [two copies]. By F. Moore. *London*, 1884–87. Presented by the Ceylon Government.

Ceylon Literary Register, Vol. I., 1886-87. Presented by the Ceylon Government.

Ceylon Sessional Papers, 1886. Presented by the Ceylon Government.

Ceylon Postal Guide, 1887. Presented by the Postmaster-General.

Challenger, H. M. S., Reports on the Scientific Results of the Exploring Voyage of. Botany, Vol. II.; Zoology, Vols. XVII., XVIII., XIX., XX., XXI., and XXII.

Coins, Oriental, in the British Museum, Catalogue of, Vols. IV. to VIII. By S. Lane Poole and R. S. Poole. *London*, 1879–83. Presented by the Trustees.

Colonial Sections, Reports on the, at the Colonial and Indian Exhibition. By H. T. Wood. *London*, 1886. Presented by the Ceylon Government.

Conchologia Iconica, nineteen monographs in eighteen volumes. By Lovell Reeve. Purchased.

Dravidian Languages, Grammar of the. By the Rev. R. Caldwell. *London*, 1875. Presented by the Ceylon Government.

East Indias, The First Booke of the Historie of the Discoverie and Conquest of the. By Herman Lopes de Castaneda; translated by N. Lichfield. *London*, 1582. Purchased.

Encyclopædia Britannica, Vol. XXII., Sib-Szo. *Edinburgh*, 1887. Purchased.

Engineer, The, Vols. LXIII. and LXIV., 1887. Purchased.

English Mechanic and World of Science, Vols. XLV. and XLVI., 1887. Purchased.

Fish Fauna of Ráméswaram Island, The. Pamphlet. By E. Thurston. *Madras*, 1887. Presented by the Author.

Fossil Mammalia in the British Museum, Catalogue of By R. Lydekker. Presented by the Trustees.

Idleness, Hours of, Vol. I., No. 2 *Kandy*, 1879. Presented by the Ceylon Government.

India, Central, Famous Monuments of. By Sir Lepel Griffin. Purchased.

Indian Fish and Fishing. By Frances Day. *London*, 1883. Purchased.

India, Historia do Descobrimento e Conquista da, polos Portuguezes. Eight volumes bound in seven. By F. Lopez de Castanheda. *Lisboa*, 1833. Purchased.

India, Lendas da, por Gaspar Correa. Eight volumes. *Lisboa*, 1858–66. Purchased.

Indian Museum, Annual Report of the, April, 1885, to March, 1886. Presented by A. Haly, Esq.

Indian Museum, Annual Report of the, April, 1886, to March, 1887. Presented by the Trustees.

Indes Orientales, Voyage aux, Zoologie. Par C. Belanger et autres. *Paris*, 1834. Purchased.

India Portugueza, Subsidios para a Historia da. *Lisboa*, 1868. Purchased.

Jones, Sir Wm., The works of, Vols. I. to VI. *London*, 1799. Presented by the Ceylon Government.

Jones, Sir Wm., The works of, supplement, Vols. I. and II. *London*, 1801. Presented by the Ceylon Government.

Knowledge, 1887. Purchased.

Kew, Royal Gardens, Bulletin of Miscellaneous Information, Vol. I., 1887. Presented by the Ceylon Government.

Lizards, Catalogue of, in the British Museum, 2nd edition, Vol. III. By G. A. Boulenger. Presented by the Trustees.

Marine Fauna of Ráméswaram and the neighbouring Islands, Preliminary Report on the. By E. Thurston. *Madras*, 1887. Presented by the Author.

Mollusca of India, Land and Freshwater, Part VI. with plates. By Lieut.-Col. H. H. Goodwin-Austin. *London*, 1887. Purchased.

Moths of India, Catalogue of the. Part I. Sphinges. By E. C. Cotes and Col. C. Swinhoe. Presented by the Trustees of the Indian Museum.

Nachrichtsblatt der Deutschen Malakozoologischen Gesellschaft, Vol. XV., 1885. Purchased.

Naturaliste Préparateur, Guide du. 2nd edition. Par G. Capus et A. T. de Rochebrune. *Paris*, 1883. Purchased.

Nature, Vol. XXXV., 1886–87. Purchased.

Nitinutirtu [Nitinutirendu], or Tamil Ethics, Part I. *Manipayi*, 1872. Presented by M. K. Tissainayakan, Esq.

Orientalist, The, Vol. II., 1885–86. Presented by the Ceylon Government.

Peru and India, Travels in. By Clements R. Markham. *London*, 1862. Presented by the Ceylon Government.

Rajast' Han, or the Central and Western Rajpoot States of India, Annals and Antiquities of, Vols. I. and II. By Lieut.-Col. James Tod. *Madras*, 1873. Presented by the Ceylon Government.

Règne Animal, Iconographie du, de Cuvier par Guérin-Méneville. *Paris*, 1829–44. Purchased.

Reptiles and Fishes, in the British Museum, Guide to the Galleries of. By A. Günther. Presented by the Trustees.

Science for the Middle and Upper Classes. By T. Twining. *London*, 1885. Presented by the Ceylon Government.

Scientific American, Vols. LVI. and LVII. for 1887. Purchased.

Scientific American, Supplement, Vols. XXIII. and XXIV. for 1887. Purchased.

Silks, Wild, of India, Handbook of the Collection Illustrative of the, in the Indian Section of the South Kensington Museum. By Thomas Wardle. Presented by the Ceylon Government.

Snakes, Indian. By E. Nicholson. *Madras*, 1874. Purchased.

Star, Easy, Lessons. By R. A. Proctor. *London*, 1883. Purchased.

Transactions and Proceedings of the New Zealand Institute, Vol. XIV., 1881. By James Hector. *Wellington*, 1882. Purchased.

Zoology, Text Book of. By C. Claus, translated by A. Sedgwick. *London*, 1884. Purchased.

Manuscripts on Ola.

(Described in the body of the report.)

COLLECTIONS OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY, C.B.

Printed Books and Manuscripts.

(A large number of works, which need not be particularised here, as their names will appear in the Proceedings of the Society for 1887.)

MEDICAL.

REPORT OF THE ACTING PRINCIPAL CIVIL MEDICAL OFFICER AND INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF HOSPITALS FOR 1887.

I HAVE the honour to submit for the information of Government the annual returns of the Civil Medical Department, with the usual statistical tables annexed, which show the numbers admitted and the mortality in the two Asylums and in the Civil, Lying-in, Jail, Police, Immigrant, Pioneer, and Infectious hospitals of the Colony for the year 1887.

Dr. Kynsey stated in his report for 1886 that the health of the Colony during that year was good. I regret I cannot speak in the same favourable terms of the year under consideration, although cholera was not heard of. An epidemic of fever broke out during the south-west monsoon in several stations in the Western and North-Western Provinces, viz., at Hanwella, Avisáwélla, and Karawanella, in the Kelani Valley, also at Veyangoda, Negombo, Ambépussa, and Minuwangoda in the Negombo District, all in the Western Province, and Polgahawela, Máráwila, and Chilaw, in the North-Western Province.

About a dozen itinerating medical officers were sent to the fever-stricken districts to treat the sick as well as those suffering from ulcers, dropsy, and other diseases common to the country. These rendered good service, which was much appreciated by the people, many of whom begged for their detention after fever subsided in the district.

I.—WESTERN AND NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES.

(Colonial Surgeon Dr. Vanderstraaten in charge.)

2. *Colombo.*—The general health of the city of Colombo may be considered as tolerably fair, if we except a few cases of smallpox which occurred. 38 cases of this disease were treated in hospitals and 32 in private houses. There was not, I am happy to observe, a single case of cholera either here or in any of the other stations.

3. *Pánadurá.*—The general health of this district was satisfactory. Malarial fevers and a few cases of typhoid fever occurred in the town and its neighbourhood, due, the medical officer states, to the insanitary condition of certain parts of the town. On the whole, the public health of the district, as compared with previous years, was exceptionally good.

4. *Kalutara.*—The town and district of Kalutara may be said to have enjoyed fairly good health. Malarial fever prevailed to a great extent in the villages in the Pasdun kóralé; this outbreak was mainly due, the medical officer believes, to the decomposition of felled jungle after heavy rains. Towards March and April an epidemic of smallpox and chickenpox broke out in the village of Payyágala. Only two cases of smallpox proved fatal. There was a widespread appearance of whooping cough towards the latter part of the year.

5. *Kégalla.*—Deputy Assistant Colonial Surgeon Mr. Modder, L.F.P. & S., the medical officer in charge, reports that "the health of the district was not very satisfactory during the early part of the year, as there was an outbreak of malarial fever in the Four Kóralés, principally at Beligal and Kinigoda kóralés. There was no smallpox or cholera during the year."

6. *Negombo.*—The general health of the district during the year cannot be said to have been satisfactory, malarial fever having broken out in an epidemic form such as has not been known for very many years, reaching its highest during May and June, when, according to the medical officer, the deaths amounted to 1,314. He attributes this large mortality to neglect and want of proper medical treatment in time. He suggests the advisability of establishing, in various centres, dispensaries in charge of qualified dispensers competent to treat malarial fevers and common ailments of the country. I too recommend this.

7. *Kurunégala.*—The year under review was not a particularly healthy one for the district, owing to the outbreak of an epidemic of fever about the middle of the year. It extended to such a degree that temporary dispensaries had to be opened in various parts of the district and placed in charge of medical practitioners and medical students for the treatment of persons affected with fever. This disease prevailed all throughout the year. Parangi also prevailed to a very great extent.

8. *Puttalam.*—Fever is the prevailing disease in this district, the commonest form being the quotidian. This disease is most prevalent from December till March, although cases occur throughout the year. Parangi, and diseases of the digestive organs also prevailed.

9. *Máráwila.*—In this district, too, fever of a malarious type prevailed epidemically during the year. The other diseases were parangi, skin diseases, anæmia, diarrhœa, and dysentery.

II.—SOUTHERN PROVINCE.

(Colonial Surgeon Dr. Dias in charge.)

10. *Galle District.*—In the Galle District the extensive outbreak of malarial fevers which prevailed during 1886 continued on to the early months of this year. Judging from this and the

widespread epidemic of smallpox which existed throughout the year, the general health of the district was far from satisfactory.

11. *Mátara.*—The general health of the town and district of Mátara was satisfactory, but, smallpox breaking out in an epidemic form at Galle, a case was introduced here at the end of March. The disease was confined to only 19 patients, including the one alluded to above, which proved fatal, he having suffered from the confluent type. The epidemic was stamped out by the end of May. This happy result was due to the precautions taken by the medical officer in promptly removing the first case to the hospital, and disinfecting, &c., the house in which it occurred, and ordering the village schools to be closed.

12. *Hambantota.*—The diseases most prevalent in the Hambantota district have been malarial fevers, dysentery, and diarrhœa, all of which occurred a few weeks after the rains. Ophthalmia is said to occur largely in the town during the hottest season of the year, due to small flies, the minute dust, uncleanly habits, and various others causes. A few cases of parangi have been found in this District, but this disease seems to be fast disappearing.

13. *Tangalla.*—The general health of the District of Tangalla during the year under review was very good. Except a few cases of chickenpox, no epidemic diseases of any kind visited the place.

14. *Weligama.*—The medical officer in charge at Weligama reports that the general health of the public during the year was not very good. Ague prevailed in almost all the villages throughout the year, due, he says, to large clearings of jungle lands for the purpose of citronella planting. Anæmia, as a general rule, is very common. Smallpox too, introduced from Galle, occurred in four villages in Weligama during the year. A few cases of enteric fever began to prevail in Weligama since October, and existed till the end of the year. The disease found its way from Kandy. Parangi is not so virulent as in Mátara, and the number of patients is also much less.

15. *Bentota.*—The general health of the district of Bentota during the year was satisfactory, no epidemic of any kind having broken out.

16. The diseases prevalent at Ambalangoda were ague, itch, and ulcers. Malarial fevers existed, especially during the north-east monsoon. No epidemic occurred during the year.

III.—CENTRAL AND NORTH-CENTRAL PROVINCES.

(Colonial Surgeon Dr. Morgan in charge.)

17. The general health of the Provinces during the year was, on the whole, satisfactory, notwithstanding the occurrence of a few cases of smallpox and the prevalence of chickenpox in outlying villages and planting districts. With the above exceptions, the Provinces enjoyed a perfect immunity from epidemic disease.

18. With the first appearance of the north-east monsoon in the month of November, an outbreak of fever occurred in the Walapané district, which will be alluded to later on.

19. The following brief remarks will show the origin of smallpox and the measures adopted to prevent an epidemic tendency. There were in all four cases reported. The first one occurred on January 15 at the Blackwater slip among the labourers working on the railway line. The patient was a Moorman from Colombo, who had a modified form of the disease. The source of infection was obscure, but there was no doubt, from his statement, that smallpox was prevailing in Colombo at the time he left for the Central Province, although he was unable to say that he had contracted infection at any particular place. On the first appearance of symptoms he was removed to the infectious diseases hospital, and every precaution taken to prevent the spread of the disease. On February 22 a Sinhalese man developed modified disease in the same place. He was segregated, and within a short time both patients were discharged well. With these cases smallpox disappeared from the Blackwater estate.

20. Simultaneously with the appearance of smallpox in the Kandy District, seven cases were reported from Nuwarakaláwiya in the Anurádhapura District. The source of the first infection was beyond the Province, and the patient was unable to state where he contracted the disease. All these cases were discharged after a term of segregation in the smallpox hospital.

21. On April 16 a case of modified smallpox was reported from Galboda estate in the Náwalapitiya District. The source of infection in this case was a patient on the Blackwater estate, where smallpox occurred in the month of February.

22. On May 5 a case of modified smallpox was reported from Ragalla estate in Uda Pussellawa. The medical officer had reported that there had been no case of smallpox in the district for one year. The patient denied having visited any place infected with smallpox or that he came in contact with any one suffering from the disease.

23. In the month of August a Sinhalese man was reported to be suffering from modified smallpox at Deltota. The patient was isolated and subsequently discharged cured.

24. The last case for the year under review was reported from Gampola. Patient was a Malabar man who came from Tinnevelly where smallpox was prevailing. He landed in Colombo after a voyage of three days, and went to Gampola where the disease developed itself; he was isolated in the infectious diseases hospital.

25. Of the four cases reported above, it is very satisfactory to note that there was not a single death. The check in the spread of the disease is to be attributed, in a great measure, to the prompt attention paid to the isolation of cases and the effective steps taken to destroy or to render inert the germs of infection.

26. Unlike the previous year, the prevalence of chickenpox was not so widespread this year, nor was the disease so difficult to bring under control. In 1886 the symptoms too of those affected assumed more of the smallpox type, were more confluent, and were followed, in many instances with indentation, whereas the eruptions in the epidemic of 1887 were of a modified character.

27. The prevalence of chickenpox during the year under review may be said to be a continuation of the epidemic of 1886—in fact, the Central and North-Central Provinces, during the last two years and more, were never free from the prevalence of chickenpox. The Colonial Surgeon says that its prevalence in an epidemic form, and its long continuance, were owing to "the indifference

with which the natives regard the disease; owing to the slight nature of the symptoms, the fewness of the eruptions, and the rapid course, often five days, which very mild cases of chickenpox ran. It is obvious, therefore, that acting under such indifference, those affected with the disease, in their daily intercourse with the healthy, propagated infection far and wide."

28. In the year 1886 the number of cases of chickenpox in the two Provinces was 467. During the year under review the cases reported were 393—a decrease of 74.

29. The epidemic of fever in the Wallapané district, alluded to above, broke out in November. The medical officer of Uḍa Pussęlláwa proceeded to the district and treated the fever-stricken patients. His stay there was necessarily short, as his duties at Uḍa Pussęlláwa required his presence at the hospital.

30. Medical practitioner Mr. Perera was then sent to do fever duty at Wallapané. He took with him a supply of medicines for fever and other complaints, and itinerated from village to village, distributing fever powders and improving the sanitary condition of unhealthy localities that, in his opinion, developed malaria. He reported for the information of Government that the people were very destitute, and lived chiefly on vegetables and cooked edible roots and leaves. On this the Government Agent forwarded supplies of rice for distribution. The change in the diet and the aid rendered by the medical officer, together with favourable climatic changes, improved the condition of the people, and within a month the district was declared free from epidemic fever.

31. The health of the town and District of Anurádhapura, as reported by the medical officer, was, on the whole, good and satisfactory. But during the months of November and December fever prevailed to a considerable extent. Besides the ordinary intermittent fever there was a considerable number of remittent, continued, and a few cases of typho-malarial fevers observed in the town. The medical officer ascribes the prevalence of these several types of malarial fever to the long-continued drought that preceded the November rains, and to the recent clearing of a large area of jungle around the town for agricultural purposes, and, possibly, to the swampy condition of a few pieces of adjacent lands converted into fields.

IV.—PROVINCE OF UVA.

(In charge of Assistant Colonial Surgeon Mr. W. G. Keith, M.B., Acting Senior Medical Officer.)

32. *Badulla.*—Only one case of smallpox occurred at Badulla during the year; it was treated in hospital and recovered, and the disease did not spread. This was a case imported from Maturata.

33. In the month of May cases of alleged cholera were reported from Koslanda, but the medical officer who proceeded to the spot and reported on the outbreak was of opinion that they were cases of choleraic diarrhœa, due to unwholesome food and impure water.

34. Dysentery was somewhat prevalent in the Wellawáya district in November.

35. Measles appeared in Haldummulla and Wellawáya in November and December, but there were only a few cases of it.

36. Fever seems to have appeared in the villages of Bintęnna in the early part of August, and fever powders were issued to the Government Agent for distribution. But it was towards the end of the year that fever broke out in many of the villages in different districts of the Province.

37. After a protracted drought there was much wet weather during the latter half of October, and all November and December, causing much sickness and distress amongst the people.

38. The villagers that suffered most were those in Wiyaluwa, Buttala, Węllassa, and Dikwęlla. There were outbreaks also in Bintęnna, Kumbalwella, Haldummulla, and Wellawáya.

39. In some of the villages it was reported that nearly every inmate in most of the houses was laid up with fever.

40. The disease was of an intermittent type and often remittent; in some cases typhoid symptoms appearing, producing what may be termed the typho-malarial form of fever. Large quantities of fever powders were distributed from time to time in the fever-stricken villages.

41. The town of Badulla itself was not free from fever during this period, as the disease appeared amongst the residents, and even some of the European residents were attacked; and in some cases several of the inmates in one house.

42. Before the end of the year there was a good deal of improvement seen, and sickness appeared to be on the decrease.

V.—EASTERN PROVINCE.

(In charge of Senior Medical Officer Mr. W. E. Misso, L.R.C.P.)

43. The health of this Province might be said to have been satisfactory during the year under review, as there were no epidemics of any kind. 17 cases of chickenpox occurred during the year in Batticaloa District, 3 cases in Trincomalee, and 14 cases in Kalmunai, without any deaths. Malarial fevers prevailed as usual throughout the year, but not to any serious extent. Paraṇgi and leprosy are to be found all over the district. According to a report from the Government Agent there are about 73 cases of paraṇgi and 70 of leprosy in the Batticaloa District. Ophthalmia prevailed at Batticaloa during April and May.

44. *Trincomalee.*—The health of the town and district of Trincomalee during the year was all that could be desired.

45. *Kalmunai.*—During the year under review the general health of the district of Kalmunai may be said to have been very fair. Beyond a few cases of chickenpox and the endemic fevers, neither of which assumed an epidemic form, there was nothing unusual as regards the health of the whole district.

VI.—NORTHERN PROVINCE.

(In charge of Colonial Surgeon Dr. Keyt.)

46. The health of the Province during the year, according to the report of Dr. Keyt, was good.

47. There was scarcely any sickness worthy of notice, if an outbreak of intermittent fever of a mild form at Pachchilapallai during the first quarter of the year is excluded.

48. The Colonial Surgeon states that the Province was entirely free from epidemic diseases. Cholera, for which the Province gained a notoriety in times past, was not so much as heard of—a circumstance entirely due to the efficient sanitary state of the Province. It is gratifying also to report that smallpox was not permitted to spread, notwithstanding that the disease was three times imported into the district. On each of these occasions it was promptly and effectually stamped out.

VII.—CHOLERA.

49. Not a single case occurred, I am glad to report, during the year, whilst in 1886 two suspicious cases were landed from a vessel which arrived in the harbour of Colombo, the ss. Mount Lebanon; one of these proved fatal. (See appendix, table V.)

VIII.—CHICKENPOX.

50. The number of cases reported during the year was 982, or an excess of 42 over that of the previous year, when 940 cases occurred. There was one death which occurred at Galle. Of the 982 cases, the Western Province contributed 402, the North-Western 28, the Southern 37, the Eastern 34, the Northern 24, the Central 392, the North-Central 1, and the Province of Uva 64.

IX.—SMALLPOX.

51. The number treated in the whole Island for this disease was 487, resulting in 129 deaths, and giving a death-rate per cent. of 26·48. These figures are considerably less than those of 1886, viz., by 1,220 cases and 214 deaths, the statistics for the latter year having been 1,707 and 343, respectively. The numbers contributed by the several Provinces were as under :—

Province.	Cases.	Deaths.	Death-rate per cent.
Western	94	18	19 14
North-Western	6	—	—
Southern	367	111	30·24
Northern	8	—	—
Central	4	—	—
North-Central	7	—	—
Province of Uva	1	—	—
Total	487	129	26·48

52. It will thus be seen that the Eastern Province enjoyed a perfect immunity from the disease.

53. The Province which contributed most cases was the Southern (367 cases with 111 deaths); next in order comes the Western, giving 94 cases, with a mortality of 18: Northern Province 8 cases, of which all recovered; North-Central 7 non-fatal cases; North-Western and Province of Uva 6 and 1 respectively, with no deaths.

54. Subjoined is a list of the stations at which smallpox prevailed :—

	Cases.	Deaths.		Cases.	Deaths.
Colombo	70	16	Valuveḍḍitturai	1	—
Hendala	1	—	Vankálai and Pésálai	1	—
Kalutara	14	2	Puliyaḍiyirakam	1	—
Bóruwala	5	—	Gampola	1	—
Rakwána	4	—	Náwalapiṭiya	1	—
Puttalam	1	—	Deltoṭa	1	—
Máráwila	5	—	Uḍa Puselláwa	1	—
Galle	311	87	Anurádhapura	7	—
Mátara	19	9	Badulla	1	—
Weligama	20	3			
Balapiṭimódara	17	12	Total	487	129
Jaffna	4	—			
Kánkésanturai	1	—			

X.—VACCINATION.

55. During the year 1887 there were 114,419 subjects operated upon in the whole Island by the vaccinators of the Department, against 128,416 in 1886, showing a decrease of 13,997. Of the 114,419 subjects, 108,115 were primary vaccinations, of which 86,416 (or 79·92 per cent.) were successful, 3,281 (or 3·03 per cent.) failed, and 18,418 (or 17·03 per cent.) failed to present themselves for examination. Of the re-vaccinations, 4,094 (or 64·94 per cent.) proved successful, 356 (or 5·64 per cent.) were unsuccessful, and in 1,854 (or 29·40 per cent.) the result of the operation could not be ascertained. Independent of the above, 2,722 persons were operated upon in the several outdoor dispensaries, of whom 2,092 (or 76·85 per cent) were successful, 261 (or 9·58 per cent proved failures, and 369 (or 13·55 per cent.) did not present themselves for examination on the appointed day. There was a decrease of 107 subjects operated upon, compared with the previous year in the same institution.

56. There were besides 14,680 persons operated upon in the coffee districts, against 12,490 in the previous year, with the following results: 11,154 (or 75·98 per cent.) discharged as successful, 1,833 (or 12·48 per cent.) failed, and 1,693 (or 11·53 per cent.) were absent. Comparing the above figures with those for 1886, it would appear that there was an excess of 2,190 subjects over the number vaccinated in 1886 on the estates.

The following figures show the total number of persons operated upon in 1886 and 1887 :—

	Primary Vaccination.				Re-vaccination.		
	Total.	Successful.	Absent.	Percentage of successful.	Total.	Successful.	Percentage of successful.
1886.							
Government Vaccinators	121,123	92,254	24,804	76·31	9,436	5,378	56·99
Medical Officers at Civil Dispensaries ...	2,736	1,994	474	72·88	93	54	58·06
Medical Assistants at District Dispensaries ...	390	327	49	83·84	—	—	—
On Estates by District Vaccinators ...	7,916	5,165	1,553	65·24	2,041	936	45 85
Total ...	132,165	99,740	26,880	75·46	11,570	6,368	55·03
1887.							
Government Vaccinators	108,115	86,416	18,418	79·82	6,304	4,094	64·94
Medical Officers at Civil Dispensaries ...	2,593	2,040	310	78·67	129	52	40·31
Medical Assistants at District Dispensaries ...	361	323	26	89·19	—	—	—
On Estates by District Vaccinators ...	11,879	9,464	1,081	79·67	2,440	1,367	56·02
Total ...	122,948	98,243	19,835	79·09	8,873	5,513	62 13

57. The extensive prevalence of fever at several outstations, as stated at the commencement of this report, which necessitated the entire suspension of vaccination for several months and the employment of Vaccinators to distribute fever medicines, has caused a very heavy fall in the number of persons vaccinated during the year under review as compared with the figures of the preceding year. Even some months after the subsidence of the fever, the sickly condition of the subjects collected for vaccination was such, that the majority had to be discharged as unfit for vaccination.

58. *Animal Vaccination.*—I beg to subjoin the remarks of the Colonial Surgeon of the Western and North-Western Provinces on animal vaccination :—

Animal vaccination was commenced in July, 1887. At first, a few calves were retrovaccinated, but on August 2 two heifers were inoculated with bovine lymph got out from Madras and Bombay ; these succeeded well, and on August 8 two others were vaccinated, resulting in a hundred per cent. of the vaccinated spots developing genuine vesicles. This lymph supply, however, did not maintain its activity for a long time, as in the twelfth and thirteenth calves the operation resulted in failure. Another supply of lymph was obtained from Madras, and a calf vaccinated on September 6, from which date up to the end of November the lymph was kept up, when it was again renewed.

Up to December 31 altogether fifty-five calves were vaccinated. To many of the vaccine stations in Colombo the vaccinated calf was taken and vaccination was carried on. The results when vaccinated direct from the calf have been extremely satisfactory. The unquestionable purity of the lymph and the unlimited supply available are great advantages. When smallpox broke out in the latter part of the year in a densely populated part of the town, vaccinated calves were taken to the infected centres, and vaccination and re-vaccination were carried on extensively, and in an unexpectedly short time the disease disappeared altogether.

Large quantities of stored animal vaccine in ivory points, glass slides, and tubes have been distributed throughout the Island. Vaccination with stored bovine lymph does not always succeed. In pure calf vaccine a fibrinous clot forms in the tube, when it cannot be blown out, so that we mix up a little distilled water and glycerine with the vaccine, and after removing the detritus, blood globules, &c., fill the tubes. Vaccine prepared in this way retains its limpidity for a considerable time, but as it is diluted it has to be used very freely on scarifications in order to ensure success.

The vote allowed for animal vaccination has been Rs. 1,700 : of this a sum of Rs. 475 has been paid to the Public Works Department for putting up the vaccination shed and a kitchen ; the vaccinator is paid Rs. 30 a month, and there is a cattle-keeper employed at Rs. 12·50. The cost of purchasing calves, feeding, supplying straw, &c., during last year has been Rs. 892·39 ; and the amount credited to Government by the sale of calves vaccinated up to December 31 has been Rs. 188. Vaccinated calves do not fetch good prices, as people have a reluctance to buy them, thinking that they are diseased. During last year calves were purchased from the market, but since January a contractor has been engaged to supply them. At first, the vaccination of one calf every fifth or sixth day was carried on, but the Principal Civil Medical Officer and Inspector-General of Hospitals finding that there was in this a great risk of suddenly losing the lymph supply, directed that two calves be vaccinated at a time. This was carried on advantageously during last year, the vote, from which nothing was spent up to July, permitting the purchase of twelve calves per month.

XI.—MEDICAL COLLEGE.

(In charge of the Principal, Dr. J. L. Vanderstraaten.)

59. The annual examination commenced on April 23, the written portion occupied three days, and the *vivâ voce* and practical examination, which commenced on May 21, lasted five days.

Seven students passed at the final examination for license, 2 at the second professional examination, 12 for the first professional examination, and 4 as hospital assistants.

The following Licentiates of the College received British qualifications during the past twelve months :—

G. J. Wouterss, L.F.P. & S. Glas., L.R.C.P.L. & M.R.C.S. Eng.
C. Heynsbergh, L.R.C.P. & S. Ed., L.F.P. & S. Glas.
C. De Silva, M.R.C.S. Eng.
V. C. J. Vanderstraaten, L.R.C.P. & S., Ed., L.F.P. & S., Glas.

The Government conveyed the agreeable information that Her Majesty the Queen, in Council, was pleased to cause Part II. of the Medical Act to be made applicable to Ceylon, so that now the College has received official recognition by the Privy Council, and the Licentiates thereof have the privilege of practising in England or any British Colony without further qualifications.

At the beginning of the session for the Summer term 46 students were on the roll of the primary class; in the secondary class, 14. In the Winter term 3 were admitted into the primary and 3 into the secondary class. At the end of the session there were 64 students altogether.

The Government Assessor, Dr. Birch, A.M.D., reports that the general proficiency displayed by the candidates was very satisfactory, and that they acquitted themselves creditably.

XII.—PORT DUTIES AND IMMIGRATION.

60. During the year the health of the Port of Colombo has been of a satisfactory nature, only one case of smallpox having had to be sent to hospital. This case arrived in September.

61. The number of vessels which arrived in Colombo was 2,050, against 2,038 in the previous year, or 12 more. Of the 2,050 vessels, 1,123 were steamers, 48 sailing ships, and 879 native craft.

62. In 1887 the passengers were, Europeans 2,654, traders 15,401, and coolies 13,525, making a total of 31,580. Of the traders, 12,190 were men, 1,218 women, 1,570 children, and 423 infants; and of coolies, 9,681 were men, 1,861 women, 1,320 children, and 663 infants. Of the traders and coolies, numbering together 28,926, 15,847 were vaccinated, 4,724 were not vaccinated, and 8,355 bore marks of smallpox.

63. Appended is a table (VI.) prepared by the Port Surgeon, giving some valuable statistics relative to the port.

XIII.—MEDICO-LEGAL DUTIES.

64. 1,202 medico-legal cases were examined, under judicial instructions, by the officers of the Department during the year, whereas the number for the preceding year was 1,076, or 126 less. Of the 1,202 cases, 133 were for murders and manslaughters, 559 for aggravated assault, 44 for simple assault, 56 for alleged rape, 7 for concealment of birth, 74 analyses, and 329 other medico-legal examinations. The amount of fees paid by Government was Rs. 16,156·50, and travelling expenses Rs. 2,739·89½, a total cost of Rs. 19,377·14½, against Rs. 17,010·20½ in the previous year, showing an increase of Rs. 2,366·94. (See appendix, table XVI.)

XIV.—HOSPITALS.

(1)—*Civil Hospitals.*

65. During the year under review there were in operation 24 Civil Hospitals and one Lying-in Hospital, the same numbers as in 1886.

66. There was no overcrowding in any hospital, the amount of accommodation being more than sufficient to meet the wants of the sick admissions, and the ventilation was in all the wards ample and never the subject of complaint.

67. The average amount of cubic space to each patient was 1,639·49 cubic feet.

68. No complaint was made on the subject of food, and the reports state it was invariably inspected by the medical officers before issue, and found to be good and wholesome. The milk is always tested by the lactometer, and that found to be under 1,028 rejected.

69. The water in the different stations, with few exceptions, was good; it was always carefully filtered for drinking purposes.

70. Bath-rooms with baths exist at all the hospitals, but all able to walk prefer to bathe in the nearest stream, whenever there is one adjoining a hospital.

71. The dry-earth system is in operation in all the hospitals.

72. The sanitary condition in the vicinity of the hospitals was reported satisfactory in most cases.

73. There were treated in the 24 Civil Hospitals and De Soysa Lying-in Home 22,752 patients—16,535 were males and 6,217 females—being 83 less than in the previous year; 16,010 belonged to races other than Malabars, and 6,642 were Malabars.

74. 19,617 were discharged; 14,156, it is stated, were cured, 4,938 relieved, and 523 not improved.

75. There were 2,084 deaths (less by 232 than in the previous year), 908 Malabars and 1,176 of other races; the death-rate of the former was less by 2·99 per cent. than it was in 1886.

(i.)—General diseases, group A, contributed 5,680 cases, with 357 deaths, or 6·28 per cent. of deaths to the cases treated.

General diseases, group B.—147, with 13 deaths, giving a death-rate per cent. of 8·84.

General diseases, group C, furnished 575 cases, 96 of which ended fatally, the death-rate per cent. being 16·69.

General diseases, group D.—4,811 cases, 548 of which died, or a mortality per cent. of 11·39.

(ii.)—Local diseases: (1) nervous system, 261 cases, 43 ended in death, the percentage of deaths being 16·47; (2) diseases of the eye, 212, with 2 deaths: (3) diseases of the ear, 10 non-fatal cases; (4) diseases of the nose, 15 cases, all ending in recovery; (5) circulatory system, 33 cases, with 14 deaths, equal to a death-rate per cent. of 42·42; of (6) respiratory system, 1,195 cases were treated, 207 ending fatally, the mortality per cent. being 17·32; (7) digestive system furnished 2,028 cases, 565 of which died, giving a death-rate per cent. of 27·85; (8) lymphatic system, 156 cases, with 4 deaths, or 2·56 per cent. of deaths to cases treated; (9) urinary system, 102 cases, and 9 deaths, or 8·82 per cent. of deaths; (10) generative system, 711 cases, 24 ending fatally, showing a mortality per cent. of 3·37; (11) organs of locomotion, sent 158 cases, 15 of which died, the death-rate per cent. being 9·49; (12) connective tissue furnished 506 cases and 16 deaths; (13) diseases of the skin contributed as many as 3,783 cases, 50 of which died, equal to a death-rate per cent. of 1·32.

(iii.)—Poisons furnished 27 cases, only 2 ending in death.

(iv.)—Injuries. Under this head 2,342 patients were treated, the largest being for wounds, 1,549, or more than double the number treated under this head. The deaths from injuries numbered 119, or equal to a death-rate per cent. of 5·08.

The classes of diseases which caused the admissions and deaths can be seen from the following table :—

	Total Treated.	Number of Deaths.	Percentage of Deaths to total Treated.
I.—General Diseases :			
Group A.	5,680	357	6·28
Group B.	147	13	8·84
Group C.	575	96	16·69
Group D.	4,811	548	11·39
II.—Local Diseases :			
(1) Nervous system	261	43	16 47
(2) Eye	212	2	·94
(3) Ear	10	—	—
(4) Nose	15	—	—
(5) Circulatory system	33	14	42·42
(6) Respiratory system	1,195	207	17·32
(7) Digestive do.	2,028	565	27·85
(8) Lymphatic do.	156	4	2·56
(9) Urinary do.	102	9	8·82
(10) Generative do.	711	24	3·37
(11) Organs of Locomotion	158	15	9·49
(12) Connective Tissue	506	16	3 16
(13) Skin	3,783	50	1·32
III.—Poisons	27	2	7·40
IV.—Injuries	2,342	119	5·08

It will thus be seen that the class which furnished most cases was general diseases, group A 5,680 patients.

Surgical Operations.

76. In the appendix will be found a table marked IX., giving in detail the number of surgical operations performed in the various Civil Hospitals. From this it appears that the total number of operations was 415, with 18 deaths ; of these, 357 were on patients admitted for disease, with the 18 deaths, and 58 for accidents all of which were successful.

77. Of the operations, 61 were amputations, 11 for disease, 3 of which ended fatally, and 50 for accidents ; the remaining 354 were other operations, 346 being for disease, with 15 deaths, and 8 for accidents, all of which were performed successfully.

(2)—*Immigrant Hospitals.*

78. The number of these hospitals was six, the same as in the previous year. There were treated in these institutions 1,689 patients, being 3 more than in 1886, when 1,686 persons were attended to. The deaths were less by 23, those proving fatal in 1887 and 1886 having been 129 and 152 respectively.

79. In the Central Province there were treated 381, with 26 deaths, the mortality per cent. being 6·82 to the total number of cases.

80. The North-Central Province contributed 707 cases, the mortality being 70 or 9·60 per cent.

81. In the Northern Province 601 cases were under treatment, the number of fatal cases being 33 or 5·49 per cent.

82. General diseases, group A.—569 cases were treated, with 43 deaths, or a percentage of 7·55.

General diseases, group B.—1, not a fatal case.

General diseases, group C.—33 cases, with 6 deaths, or a death-rate per cent. of 18·18.

General diseases, group D.—462 cases were treated, 21 of which proved fatal, giving a mortality per cent. of 4·54.

Nervous system, 14 cases, with 1 death ; eye, 9 cases, with no deaths ; nose, 1 non-fatal case ; circulatory system furnished 6 cases, with 1 death ; lymphatic system, 8 cases, without a single death ; respiratory system, 59 cases, 16 of which proved fatal, or a death-rate per cent. of 27·11 ; digestive system, 124 cases, with 27 deaths ; urinary system, 7 cases, with 3 deaths ; generative system, 10 cases. all of which were discharged cured ; organs of locomotion gave 3 cases, none of which proved fatal ; connective tissue, 18 cases, none ending in death ; disease of the skin contributed 273 cases, 7 ending fatally, or a percentage of 2·56. Under injuries 92 cases were under treatment, only 4 of which died, giving a death-rate per cent. of 4·08.

The expenditure incurred in these hospitals will be found detailed on a table in the appendix marked X.

(3)—*Police Hospital.*

83. Six hundred and thirty-six sick members of the force had to undergo treatment during the year. Not a single fatal case occurred. The number treated during the preceding year was 595, showing an increase this year of 41. Of the total treated, 9 were those who remained over from 1886, and 627 were fresh admissions ; 628 of these were discharged to duty, and 8 remained on the sick list at the close of the year, the latter comprising 5 cases of simple continued fever, and 1 each of gonorrhœa, diarrhœa, and ulcer. The diseases which furnished the most admissions were simple continued fever, colic, rheumatism, diarrhœa, and ague ; the numbers having being 96, 64, 62, 50, and 41 respectively.

84. It was stated in the last report that the hospital, which is situated in the Police Barracks, was insufficient in point of accommodation for the reception and treatment of sick persons. I am happy to be able to state that two wards in the old Lunatic Asylum have been set apart for this purpose, and were taken over for occupation in April of this year.

(4)—*Lock Hospitals and Working of the Contagious Diseases Ordinance.*

85. The working of the Contagious Diseases Ordinance is shown in table marked XIII. in the appendix.

86. There were at the beginning of the year under review 187 registered prostitutes on the list—95 at Colombo, 24 at Kandy, and 68 at Galle; at the close of the year the numbers were 99, 38, and 68, respectively. There came during the year 94 women on the list, whilst in the year immediately preceding the number was 80, showing an increase of 14.

87. Seventy-four deserted or absented themselves during 1887—35 at Colombo, 7 at Kandy, and 32 at Galle. 33 voluntarily presented themselves for examination, viz., 6 at Kandy and 27 at Galle. Of the 74 deserters, only 6 were brought back by the police, 1 at Kandy and 5 at Galle. Of the deserters at Colombo none were apprehended.

88. In the three Lock Hospitals at Colombo, Kandy, and Galle, 1,133 were treated in 1887, against 1,127 in 1886, showing an increase of only 6, the preponderating disease being, as usual, gonorrhœa.

89. I subjoin a table showing the numbers treated during 1887 at the three stations:—

	Diseases.											
	Primary Syphilis.	Secondary Syphilis.	Gonorrhœa.	Leucorrhœa.	Bubo Gonorrhœal	Ulcer On.	Gonorrhœal Condyloma.	Ulcer of Vulva.	Simple, continued Fever.	Warts.	Diarrhœa.	Total.
Colombo	130	149	357	22	—	35	16	68	—	—	—	777
Kandy	37	2	68	—	—	3	—	—	3	1	1	115
Galle	191	1	46	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	241
Total ...	358	152	471	22	2	39	16	68	3	1	1	1,133

90. In the appendix will be found a table marked XIII. B, showing the number of cases of venereal diseases treated in the Military Hospitals at Colombo, Kandy, and Galle, during the year under consideration.

(5)—*De Soysa Lying-in Home.*

91. In this institution 140 women were admitted for parturition, and with the 5 who remained over from the previous year made up the total to 145. Of these 140 were confined and 4 remained at the end of 1887. There was only one death amongst the mothers.

(6)—*Jail Hospitals and Sick Prisoners.*

92. There were confined in the 30 jails in the Island, during the year, 21,474 prisoners, the daily average strength being 3,666; of these 5,332 had to be admitted for various diseases. Of the 5,332 cases treated during the year, 109 died, or a death-rate of 2·04 per cent. calculated on the cases treated.

93. The cases treated in 1886 amounted to 4,944, the deaths being 108, thus showing an increase during the year under consideration of 388 and 1, respectively.

94. The following table gives the cases treated, deaths, and the mortality per cent. for the last ten years from 1878 to 1887 inclusive:—

Year.	Total Number of Cases.	Number of Deaths.	Percentage of Deaths to Cases Treated.
1878	3,148 ...	60 ...	1·90
1879	2,108 ...	33 ...	1·56
1880	3,147 ...	70 ...	2·22
1881	3,322 ...	79 ...	2·37
1882	4,158 ...	100 ...	2·40
1883	2,479 ...	49 ...	1·97
1884	2,170 ...	38 ...	1·75
1885	5,228 ...	149 ...	2·85
1886	4,944 ...	108 ...	2·18
1887	5,332 ...	109 ...	2·04

95. The ratio per 1,000 of average daily sick was 28·60; admissions for dysentery and diarrhœa 374·52; for fevers 678·39; respiratory diseases 47·19; injuries 74·74; and for all other diseases 1,454·44.

96. The ratio per 1,000 of deaths were from dysentery and diarrhœa 16·91; fevers 5·18; respiratory diseases 3·27; injuries ·27; and other diseases 4·09.

97. In the appendix will be found a table marked XII., which shows the average strength, admissions into hospitals, average daily sick with the ratio of admissions, and deaths per 1,000 of average strength, for dysentery and diarrhœa, fevers, respiratory diseases, injuries, other diseases, and from all causes, for each jail of the Colony.

XV.—ASYLUMS.

(1)—*Lunatic Asylum.*

98. Three hundred and fifty-five patients remained under treatment at the beginning of 1887, and 112 were admitted, making the total insane population 467. Of these 80 were discharged (49 cured, 4 relieved and 27 not improved), 30 died (20 males and 10 females), and there remained at the end of the year 357.

The death-rate per cent. was 4·80, against 3·96, showing an increase of ·84 per cent on the number of deaths.

The Medical Superintendent having reported the water to be liable to contamination in the old asylum, the greatest care was exercised in keeping it pure; when the water in the wells failed, that from the Labugama supply was obtained. To the new asylum the Labugama water was

supplied, that in the wells being used for cleansing purposes only. The latrines are sufficient in number, and the dry-earth system is in operation in the latrines.

One hundred and seventy-one sick lunatics were treated in the infirmaries attached to both the buildings. Of these, 133 were discharged, 30 died, and 8 remained at the end of the year. The average daily sick was 5·91 (males 3·34, females 2·57).

Two patients were secluded under lock and key, the greatest duration in any one case being eight hours; there was no necessity for restraint by attendants or mechanical restraint.

Four cases of injury to patients by themselves occurred, all accidental ones. Two cases of rough treatment to patients by attendants were brought to notice: in both the attendants were dismissed. Both were cases of assault, but in neither did the patient sustain any serious injury.

For exercise the patients are sent out in walking, working, and bathing parties; they amuse themselves with music, musical instruments being provided for them, also games, cards, bagatelle, theatricals, draughts, native drums, and a fête on the grounds. On one occasion 66 patients visited a circus in Colombo. Newspapers are supplied for the inmates. They are engaged daily, Sundays excepted, in agriculture, gardening, drawing water, household work, &c. The proceeds of their industry is formed into a fund, which amounted to Rs. 10,518·03 at the end of the year.

The old asylum was closed during the year.

(2)—*Leper Asylum.*

99. In this asylum, which has separate wards for lepers and paupers suffering from incurable diseases, 180 patients remained at the end of 1886, 57 were admitted during the year, the total treated being 237. The daily average in the asylum was 182·24, males 152·94, females 29·30. 26 were discharged, and it is stated 22 were relieved and 4 not improved; 27 died and 184 remained at the close of 1887. The percentage of deaths to total treated was 10·97.

XVI.—HOUSES OF OBSERVATION.

100. The following table shows the admissions into the Houses of Observation for suspected lunatics at Colombo, Kandy, Galle, and Jaffna:—

	No. of Admissions.	No. of Discharges.	No. of Deaths.	Transferred to Asylum.
Colombo	40 ...	22 ...	1 ...	17
Kandy	21 ...	11 ..	1 ...	8*
Galle	30 ...	8 ...	— ...	18†
Jaffna	3 ...	3 .	— ...	—

XVII.—PIONEERS.

101. There were three stations at which pioneers were quartered during the year, viz., Ambalantoṭa in the Southern Province, and Kalâwęwa and Ęlahera in the North-Central Province; the last named was abandoned in August.

The total number treated at the stations amounted to 345, whilst that in 1886 was 2,603, or 2,258 less this year. The deaths numbered 10 this year against 21 in 1886, or a decrease in 1887 of 11.

The diseases which caused the mortality were remittent fever 5, pneumonia 2, and 1 each from the following diseases, viz., dysentery, apoplexy, and diarrhœa.

XVIII.—OUTDOOR DISPENSARIES.

102. At the end of 1886 there were 50 dispensaries throughout the Island. At the close of the year under review 51 such institutions were in operation, one having since been added, viz., that attached to the infectious diseases hospital at U'rugodawatta. The 51 dispensaries comprised 15 in the Western, 5 in the North-Western, 8 in the Southern, 3 in the Eastern, 11 in the Northern, 5 in the Central, 1 in the Province of Uva, and 3 in the North-Central Province. 104,357 persons obtained relief at the several dispensaries; these paid 236,494 visits, contributing a sum of Rs. 14,640·68. The collections in 1886 amounted to Rs. 14,588·29½, or Rs. 52·38½ in favour of the year under review. The highest amount collected was in Moratuwa, Rs. 1,526·30, and the lowest Rs. 2·92 in Puliyadiyirakam.

XIX.—MEDICAL STORES.

103. The medical stores were in charge of Dr. MacDonald throughout the year. The staff consists of one chief dispenser on Rs. 1,600, with an allowance of Rs. 240. He has two assistants, one on Rs. 700, and the other for the Estates Branch on Rs. 480. There are six servants, whose salaries amount to Rs. 990. There was paid Rs. 54,373·17 for medicines received from England. Quinine and other drugs were purchased in the local market, valued at Rs. 2,748·99, and other articles used in the preparation of drugs and materials from the Colonial Store amounted to Rs. 1,804·83.

There were sold to the Estates Branch and charged to the Fund, medicines, &c., of the value of Rs. 19,677·94. The value of quinine, fever powders, and other medicines supplied to the Public Works Department, medical officers, and others on payment, was Rs. 2,742·40. The value of surgical instruments lost and paid for Rs. 55·84, and Rs. 23·62 was realised by the sale of unserviceable surgical instruments.

The estimated value of medicines, materials, and instruments issued to the civil jails, dispensaries, &c., was Rs. 63,791·61.

XX.—DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURE.

104. In the appendix will be found tables marked XIV. and XV. showing the expenditure of the Department during the past year.

* One remaining. † Four remaining.

In the following table I have drawn up a summary of table XV. I also show the expenditure of 1886 for comparison :—

Establishment.	1887. Rs. c.	1886. Rs. c.	Increase. Rs. c.	Decrease. Rs. c.
Salaries ... Fixed	84,237 53	84,007 47	230 6	—
Salaries ... Provisional	115,083 35	120,216 64	—	5,133 29
	199,320 88	204,224 11	230 6	4,903 23
Allowances	17,906 82	12,360 24	5,546 58	—
Contingencies	12,072 69	7,138 67	4,934 2	—
Hospitals and Sanitation.				
Hospitals, &c	267,671 14	272,862 15	—	5,191 1
Rent ...	5,276 0	4,700 0	576 0	—
Transport (Departmental)	18,856 65	18,419 91	436 74	—
General ...	61,861 37	41,641 67	20,219 70	—
Total	353,665 16	337,623 73	21,232 44	5,191 1
Grand Total ...	582,965 55	561,346 75	31,943 10	10,094 24

The net increase in 1887, as compared with the expenditure for 1886, was Rs. 21,618·80.

It will thus be seen that the total cost of the Civil Medical Department in 1887 was Rs. 582,965·55, from which must be deducted the following receipts :—

	Rs. c.
From paying patients	21,823 2¾
Collections at Outdoor dispensaries	14,640 68
Total ...	36,463 70¾

The net expenditure of the Department was therefore Rs. 546,501·84.

XXI.—STRENGTH OF THE DEPARTMENT. (Appendix XVII.)

105. Four Colonial Surgeons, one Superintendent of the Lunatic Asylum, one Medical Superintendent of the General Hospital, Colombo, twenty-three Assistant Colonial Surgeons, four Deputy Assistant Colonial Surgeons, and twenty-three Sub-Assistant Colonial Surgeons, were on the strength of the Department at the beginning of 1887.

106. The following changes occurred during the year :—The vacancy of Medical Superintendent of the General Hospital, Colombo, caused by the death of Dr. Fowler, was filled up by the confirmation of Dr. MacDonald, who was acting for him, his place as Assistant Colonial Surgeon being filled up by the promotion of Deputy Assistant Colonial Surgeon Mr. F. G. Spittel.

The vacancy caused by the death of Assistant Colonial Surgeon Mr. Kriekenbeek was not filled until February, 1887, when Assistant Colonial Surgeon Mr. Waytealingam, of Mullaittivu, was promoted to Rs. 3,000 rank, his place being filled up by Deputy Assistant Colonial Surgeon Mr. H. A. Keegel.

The two vacancies caused by the promotion of Messrs. Spittel and Keegel were filled up by Sub-Assistant Colonial Surgeons Messrs. Modder and Johnson, whose places were filled up by Messrs. Huybertsz and Lourensz.

Dr. J. W. Plaxton, the Medical Superintendent of the Lunatic Asylum, resigned his post during the year, and was succeeded by Dr. J. B. Spence.

ESTATES BRANCH.

During the year 1,503 estates received medical attendance. Of these, 1,474 were scheduled, but the estates unscheduled were also given the advantages of the Ordinance. The Superintending Medical Officers paid 1,215 visits of inspection to the estates.

2. For the treatment of estate labourers, 6 district hospitals, 3 dispensaries provided with beds, 8 civil district hospitals, and 12 district dispensaries were available, besides the dispensaries attached to the hospitals; in all there were 29 institutions available for the treatment of estate labourers.

3. The number of officers employed were 8 District Medical Officers, 20 Medical Assistants, and 8 officers of the Civil Medical Department in charge of districts.

4. The Colonial Surgeons, Senior Medical Officer of Uva, and the Superintending Medical Officers inspected the hospitals and dispensaries.

5. In the district hospitals and dispensaries with beds, 1,883 estate labourers were treated, against 1,759 in the previous year, with 340 deaths, a death-rate of 18 per cent.

6. In the 8 civil district hospitals 1,995 estate labourers were treated, against 1,558 in the previous year, with 334 deaths, a death-rate of 11·72.

7. In the district hospitals 639 other than estate labourers were treated, with 89 deaths, a death-rate of 13·92.

8. In both the civil and district hospitals 3,878 estate labourers were treated, with 674 deaths, a death-rate of 17·38.

9. 3,625 deaths were reported from the estates; of these 1,586 were infants under one year, 1,809 males, 1,802 females, and 14 sex not stated.

10. 5,851 births were reported from the estates, 2,956 were males 2,744 females, and 151 still-born.

11. 7,824 visits, against 5,726, were paid to estates by medical officers for the purpose of affording medical aid to the sick on the estates.

12. 17,351 estate labourers were treated at the district dispensaries; these paid 24,511 visits. 2,396 attended the civil dispensaries, paying 3,324 visits. At both civil and district dispensaries 19,747 labourers were attended, who paid 27,835 visits.

13. The medical officers treated 18,790 labourers on estates.

14. In all 38,430 estate labourers were treated at the dispensaries and on the estates, against 27,880 in last year.

15. In the district dispensaries 9,280 other than estate labourers were treated; of these 2,850 paid for their medicines. Of the total number thus treated 7,277 were paupers, 688 were Malabars, and 6,589 others.

16. At the dispensaries 920 superintendents were prescribed for and 1,038 attended on estates, which compares very favourably with the figures of last year.

17. The following table gives the number of estate labourers and others treated (with the death-rate) in the district hospitals and three dispensaries provided with beds for serious cases:—

	Estate Labourers.			Others.			Total.		
	Treated.	Died.	Death-rate.	Treated.	Died.	Death-rate.	Treated.	Died.	Death-rate.
Dikoya	417	114	27·33	123	21	17·07	540	135	25·00
Haputalé	202	38	18·81	147	25	17·00	349	63	18·05
Madulsíma	188	11	5·85	38	8	21·05	226	19	8·40
Kęlębokka	257	36	14·00	57	7	12·28	314	43	13·69
Lindula	555	107	19·27	187	13	6·95	742	120	16·17
Uḍa Pussęlláwa ...	185	22	11·89	34	4	11·76	219	26	11·87
Maskeliya	9	—	—	4	—	—	13	—	—
Balaṇgoḍa	45	6	13·33	38	9	23·68	83	15	18·07
Rakwána	25	6	24·00	11	2	18·18	36	8	22·22
Total ...	1,883	340	18·00	639	89	13·92	2,522	429	17·01

18. Table VII. gives the results of the vaccination performed by the six estate vaccinators.

Receipts and Expenditure.

19. The receipts and expenditure are shown in three tables.

20. Table I. gives the expenditure and all receipts for all treated at the district hospitals and district dispensaries and estate labourers in the civil district hospitals.

21. Table II. gives the receipts and expenditure on account of estate labours *alone* in civil and district hospitals.

22. Table III. shows the expenditure under the different heads for each district hospital and dispensary.

23. 1,883 estate labourers were treated at the district hospitals with a residence of 32,073 days, at a cost of Rs. 10,037·55, and 639 others with a residence of 10,048 days, at a cost of Rs. 3,144·62; the cost for both being Rs. 13,182·17, or Rs. 947·39 in excess of last year, which is very favourable considering the larger number treated and the difference in the contract rates.

24. In the civil hospitals 1,995 estate labourers were treated, with a total residence of 48,054 days, at a cost of Rs. 13,416·72.

25. The tables will show that there has been an increase both in the expenditure and in the receipts for last year.

26. In 1886 the receipts left a balance of Rs. 104,106·01 to be met by the export duty and the heading deficit.

27. The present year (1887) leaves a balance of Rs. 109,507·94 to be met in the same way. This is an increase of Rs. 5,401·93.

28. The export duty amounted to Rs. 56,841·77 in 1887, an increase of Rs. 4,137·39, leaving a deficit of Rs. 52,666·17, as against Rs. 51,381·09 in 1886.

29. The deficit would have been smaller, considering the increase under the head of receipts, were it not for a proportionate increased expenditure due to increase and arrears of salaries paid to district medical officers, a large expenditure of medicines, and increased demand for equipment, fitting up two new hospitals to be opened early in 1888, and a general increase in every Department of the working of the Ordinance.

J. L. VANDERSTRAATEN, M.D.,
Acting Principal Civil Medical Officer and
Inspector-General of Hospitals.

APPENDIX.

Table I.—Estates Medical Aid: Receipts and Expenditure in the District and Civil Hospitals.

RECEIPTS.	Amount. Rs. c.	Total. Rs. c.
District Hospitals.		
I. Diets—Paid by estates for 1,883 labourers (27,181 days)	8,154 30	
Paid by Government for 639 others at 50c. a day (10,048 days) ...	5,024 0	
		13,178 30
II. Funeral expenses of other than estate labourers ...	—	119 70
III. (*a*) Medicines sold to Superintendents in bulk and prescriptions compounded ...	7,207 86	
(*b*) Collections at Outdoor Dispensaries	1,191 11	
(*c*) Medicines used by 639 other than estate labourers in hospital ...	401 92	
(*d*) Medicines used by 9,280 other than estate labourers treated in Dispensaries	2,485 95	
		11,286 84
IV. Paid by estates for visits ...	—	17,315 0
Total ..	—	41,899 84
Civil Hospitals.		
I. Paid by estates for 1,995 patients dieted in hospital (31,077 days, at 30c. per day)	—	9,323 10
II. Paid by estates for 898 visits at Rs. 2·50 a visit ...	—	2,245 0
		11,568 10
Grand Total ...	—	53,467 94
Export Duty ...	—	56,841 77
Total ...	—	110,309 71
Deficit ...	—	53,150 53
		163,460 24

EXPENDITURE.	Amount. Rs. c.	Total. Rs. c.
District Hospitals.		
I. Diet—For 1,883 estate labourers (32,073 days) ...	10,196 53	
For 639 others (10,048 days)	3,194 43	
		13,390 96
II. Value of medicines supplied from Civil Medical Stores	—	19,678 30
III. Funeral expenses (estate labourers, Rs. 612·40; others, Rs. 119·70) ...	—	732 10
IV. Salaries and allowances of Superintending Medical Officers, District Medical Officers, &c... ...	78,333 90	
Departmental expenditure ...	2,839 99	
Maintenance and repairs ...	3,535 84	
Rent of Outdoor Dispensaries	1,619 48	
Miscellaneous charges ...	2,269 90	
Equipment	3,023 21	
Wages of Dispensers, Attendants, &c.	14,772 56	
Contingencies... ...	1,315 10	
		107,709 98
Total ...	—	141,511 34
Civil Hospitals.		
I. Diets—For 1,995 estate labourers (48,054 days) ...	—	13,416 72
II. (1) Medicines used by above patients in hospital ...	1,922 16	
(2) Medicines used by 4,318 estate labourers treated at Outdoor Dispensaries and seen on estates (5,576 times) ...	836 40	
		2,758 56
III. Funeral expenses of estate labourers	—	553 62
IV. Travelling allowances of five Civil Medical Officers and a Dispenser	—	5,220 0
Total ...	—	21,948 90
Grand Total ...	—	163,460 24

Table II.—Estates Medical Aid: Receipts and Expenditure in District Hospitals and at Outdoor Dispensaries, and in Civil Hospitals and Civil Dispensaries, on account of Estate Labourers *alone*.

RECEIPTS.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Diets—Paid by estates for diets of 3,878 estate labourers, at 30c. ...	17,477 40	
Profits—On diets of 639 others treated in District Hospitals ...	1,829 57	
		19,306 97
Paid for visits to estates ...	—	19,560 0
Export duty ...	—	56,841 77
Total ...	—	95,708 74
Deficit ...	—	53,150 53
		148,859 2

EXPENDITURE.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Diets—3,878 estate labourers ...	23,613 25	
Medicines used by estate labourers alone, Rs. 22,436·86 less Rs. 11,286·84	11,150 2	
Funeral expenses—Civil and District Hospitals ...	1,166 2	
Upkeep—Equipment, &c., as per Table I., or all expenditure not included under the heads of Diet, Medicine, or Funeral Expenses	112,929 98	
		148,859 27

Table III.—Statement of Expenditure under the Medical Aid Ordinance during 1887.

	Number of Patients.	Number of Days the Patients stayed in Hospital.	Other than Estate Labourers.	Number of Days in Hospital.	Provisions and other Necessaries. Diet.	Extra Articles of Diet. Stimulants.	Extra Articles of Diet. Other Articles.	Total Provisions, &c.	Equipment.	Funeral Expenses.	Wages of Dispensers, Attendants, &c.	Contingencies.	Medicines, &c., supplied from the Civil Medical Stores.	Total Expenditure.	Grand Total.
District Hospitals.					Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Kelébokka	314	5,972	57	978	2,017 95	4 63	108 80	2,131 38	111 24	60 0	1,145 50	164 45	1,065 66	4,678 23	
Haputalé	349	6,143	147	2,617	2,163 36	30 27	114 4	2,307 67	293 53	94 50	1,356 0	254 51	1,992 82	6,299 3	
Dikoya	540	10,561	123	1,229	2,617 20	76 78	108 16	2,802 14	430 14	202 50	1,332 0	252 7	1,502 16	6,521 1	
Lindula	742	11,181	187	3,005	2,893 91	73 89	106 77	3,074 57	385 32	300 0	1,853 0	248 34	2,519 67	8,380 90	
Uda Pussellâwa ...	219	2,269	34	395	1,005 9	10 86	12 2	1,027 97	98 55	22 0	1,064 46	52 88	679 72	2,945 58	
Madulsima	226	3,868	37	1,105	1,361 74	—	0 85	1,362 59	341 45	31 35	1,190 0	58 25	691 71	3,675 35	
Civil District Hospitals ...	1,995	48,054	—	—	—	—	—	14,416 20	—	553 62	—	—	—	14,969 82	
Total ...	4,385	88,048	585	9,329	12,059 25	196 43	450 64	27,122 52	1,660 23	1,263 97	7,940 96	1,030 50	8,451 74	47,469 92	
District Outdoor Dispensaries.															
Balangoda	83	978	38	385	279 0	—	9 13	288 13	35 80	15 50	476 65	23 95	717 52	1,557 55	
Rakwána	36	923	11	258	208 53	18 90	10 17	237 60	52 16	6 25	419 19	56 21	714 47	1,485 88	
Avisáwélla	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	32 32	—	440 0	37 11	1,468 92	1,978 35	
Dimbula	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3 39	—	610 0	9 34	930 74	1,553 47	
Maskeliya	13	226	4	76	89 8	9 82	60 1	158 91	62 85	—	770 0	29 56	1,063 85	2,085 17	
Maturata	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5 83	—	750 0	7 60	687 75	1,451 18	
Deltota	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	32 3	—	642 56	1 75	741 82	1,418 16	
Teldeniya	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	15 61	—	725 88	40 73	1,067 92	1,850 14	
Náwalapitiya	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	29 14	—	600 0	22 32	867 59	1,519 5	
Ramboda	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	28 85	—	744 0	4 85	936 62	1,714 32	
Elkaduwa	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0 84	—	120 0	2 13	493 45	616 42	
Karawanella	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	785 53	—	350 32	46 68	1,059 6	2,241 59	
Morowak kóralé ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	103 90	—	—	—	303 3	406 93	
Monarágala	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	174 73	—	183 0	2 37	173 82	533 92	
Total ...	132	2,127	53	719	576 61	28 72	79 31	684 64	1,362 98	21 75	6,831 60	284 60	11,226 56	20,412 13	
Grand Total ...	4,517	90,175	638	10,048	12,635 86	225 15	529 95	27,807 16	3,023 21	1,285 72	14,772 56	1,315 10	19,678 30	67,882 5	67,882 5

General.

Salaries and allowances of Superintending Medical Officers, District Medical Officers, &c.	83,553 90	
Salaries of Extra Clerks, &c.	2,839 99	
Maintenance and Repairs	3,535 84	
Transport of Medicines and other Miscellaneous Charges	603 73	
Furniture for Planters' Ward	386 81	
Rent of Outdoor Dispensaries	1,619 48	
Printing	1,666 17	
		94,205 92
		162,087 97

Table IV.—Return of Cases of Smallpox, Modified Smallpox, and Chickenpox that occurred in Ceylon during 1887, and which were reported to the Civil Medical Department.

Stations.	Total Treated.				Total Died.			
	Small-pox.	Modified Small-pox.	Chicken-pox.	Total.	Small-pox.	Modified Small-pox.	Chicken-pox.	Total.
Western Province.								
Smallpox Hospital, Colombo ...	32	5	161	198	9	—	—	9
Colombo	25	7	—	32	7	—	—	7
Convict Hospital, Colombo ...	—	—	22	22	—	—	—	—
Lunatic Asylum, Jáwatta ...	1	—	11	12	—	—	—	—
U'rugodawatta	—	—	4	4	—	—	—	—
Hendala	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Mahara	—	—	8	8	—	—	—	—
Pánaduré	—	—	11	11	—	—	—	—
Kalutara	13	1	41	55	2	—	—	2
Béruwala	5	—	—	5	—	—	—	—
Ratnapura	—	—	18	18	—	—	—	—
Negombo	—	—	62	62	—	—	—	—
Rakwána	1	3	6	10	—	—	—	—
Balagoda	—	—	41	41	—	—	—	—
Moratuwa	—	—	16	16	—	—	—	—
Karawanella	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Total ...	77	17	402	496	18	—	—	18
North-Western Province.								
Kurunégala	—	—	17	17	—	—	—	—
Puttalam	1	—	1	2	—	—	—	—
Chilaw	—	—	6	6	—	—	—	—
Maráwila	—	5	4	9	—	—	—	—
Total ...	1	5	28	34	—	—	—	—
Southern Province.								
Galle	255	56	31	342	85	2	1	88
Mátara	13	6	2	21	9	—	—	9
Hambantota	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Tangalla	—	—	3	3	—	—	—	—
Weligama	18	2	—	20	3	—	—	3
Balapitimódara	16	1	—	17	12	—	—	12
Total ...	302	65	37	404	109	2	1	112
Eastern Province.								
Batticaloa	—	—	17	17	—	—	—	—
Trincomalee	—	—	3	3	—	—	—	—
Kalmunai	—	—	14	14	—	—	—	—
Total ...	—	—	34	34	—	—	—	—
Northern Province.								
Jaffna	3	1	15	19	—	—	—	—
Kayts	—	—	5	5	—	—	—	—
Kankésanturai	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Chávakachchéri ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Valuvedditurai	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Vankálai and Pésálai ...	1	—	4	5	—	—	—	—
Puliadiyirakam ...	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Total ...	6	2	24	32	—	—	—	—
Central Province.								
Kandy	—	—	69	69	—	—	—	—
Gampola	1	—	98	99	—	—	—	—
Matalé	—	—	32	32	—	—	—	—
Nuwara Eliya	—	—	41	41	—	—	—	—
Dimbula	—	—	7	7	—	—	—	—
Nawalapitiya	—	1	28	29	—	—	—	—
Elkaduwa	—	—	6	6	—	—	—	—
Maturata	—	—	16	16	—	—	—	—
Deltota	—	1	9	10	—	—	—	—
Ramboda	—	—	4	4	—	—	—	—
Uda Pussellawa... ...	—	1	20	21	—	—	—	—
Maskeliya	—	—	9	9	—	—	—	—
Lindula	—	—	4	4	—	—	—	—
Kelebokka	—	—	16	16	—	—	—	—
Dikoya	—	—	33	33	—	—	—	—
Total ...	1	3	392	396	—	—	—	—
North-Central Province.								
Anurádhapura	1	6	1	8	—	—	—	—
Province of Uva.								
Badulla	1	—	21	22	—	—	—	—
Haputalé	—	—	22	22	—	—	—	—
Lunugala	—	—	13	13	—	—	—	—
Monarágala	—	—	8	8	—	—	—	—
Total ...	1	—	64	65	—	—	—	—
Grand Total ...	389	98	982	1,469	127	2	1	130

Table V.—Return of Cases of Simple Cholera that have been reported in the several Districts of Ceylon during 1886 and 1887.

	1887.	1886.
Remained at end of previous year	— ...	—
Admitted	— ...	2
Total	— ...	2
Discharged	— ...	1
Died	— ...	1
Remaining on December 31	— ...	—
Percentage of Deaths to Number of Cases ...	— ...	50

Table VI.—Arrivals of Steamers, Sailing Ships, and Native Craft, with European Passengers, Native Traders, and Immigrant Coolies, in the Port of Colombo, from January 1 to December 31, 1887.

	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Total.
Steamers	92	90	101	96	93	86	94	91	97	96	88	99	1,123
Sailing Ships	3	6	2	4	4	3	4	1	7	5	4	5	48
Native Craft	78	70	98	73	59	69	66	77	81	71	86	51	879
European Passengers ...	537	264	197	208	289	193	96	58	157	158	279	218	2,654
Traders.													
Men	872	1,030	1,042	840	849	778	1,324	678	1,513	1,480	908	876	12,190
Women	74	84	155	102	103	79	128	98	102	113	110	70	1,218
Children	120	148	163	81	102	56	137	62	246	206	113	136	1,570
Infants	17	30	43	35	39	25	55	26	48	37	38	30	423
Total	1,083	1,292	1,403	1,058	1,093	938	1,644	864	1,909	1,836	1,169	1,112	15,401
Coolies.													
Men	393	464	497	758	895	914	1,268	845	1,231	1,043	651	722	9,681
Women	92	78	72	169	160	185	231	182	248	185	116	143	1,861
Children	62	62	46	101	122	118	157	114	205	157	91	85	1,320
Infants	20	21	30	51	71	67	77	67	107	68	38	46	663
Total	567	625	645	1,079	1,248	1,284	1,733	1,208	1,791	1,453	896	996	13,525
Vessels placed in Quarantine ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Cholera.													
Number sent to Hospital ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Number died on Board ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total Number of Cases ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cases of Smallpox sent to Hospital	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Cases of Chickenpox sent to Hospital	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cases of Measles sent to Hospital...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Privation.													
Sent to Hospital ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Treated on Board ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Died on Board ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Number Vaccinated ...	888	1,090	1,025	1,206	1,302	1,192	1,812	1,056	2,249	1,898	1,038	1,091	15,847
Number not Vaccinated ...	322	359	474	332	347	353	467	420	465	471	398	316	4,724
Number with marks of Smallpox	440	468	549	599	692	677	1,098	596	986	920	629	701	8,355

Table VII.—Statement showing the Particulars of Vaccination in the Island during 1887.

Name of Vaccinator.	Primary Vaccination.							Re-vaccination.				Percentage of Successful.	
	Age.			Results.				Results.					
	Infants.	Children.	Adults.	Successful.	Unsuccessful	Unknown.	Total Number Vaccinated.	Successful.	Unsuccessful.	Unknown.	Total Number Vaccinated.	For Primary Vaccination.	For Re-vaccination.
Western Province.													
W M. N. Marikar ...	53	1,097	88	860	131	247	1,238	118	47	106	271	69·46	43·54
M. J. Perera* ...	—	4	—	3	1	—	4	1	9	92	102	75·	·95
C. Fernando ...	39	1,344	69	1,250	64	138	1,452	30	7	45	82	86·08	36·58
J. A. Perera ...	29	1,022	100	953	45	153	1,151	397	116	245	758	82·79	52·37
G. Jacolis ...	10	994	40	959	33	52	1,044	72	3	81	156	91·85	46·15
D. A. Dharmaratne†	—	544	59	443	42	118	603	23	9	1	33	73·71	69·69
C. A. P. Karunatillake ...	—	1,679	9	1,442	38	208	1,688	—	—	—	—	85·42	—
Simeon De Seypath‡	—	1,154	23	1,079	38	60	1,177	—	—	—	—	91·67	—
D. J. S. Goonewardene ...	—	1,388	125	1,289	52	172	1,513	—	—	—	—	85·19	—
SeyadorisDeSeypath§	—	1,536	13	1,431	51	67	1,549	—	—	—	—	92·38	—
W. M. Fonseka ...	—	1,214	69	917	39	327	1,283	—	—	—	—	71·47	—
P. S. B. Pulle ...	—	722	29	541	22	188	751	15	10	8	33	72·37	45 15
J. De Silva‖ ...	4	152	12	144	8	16	168	46	2	14	62	85·71	74·19
A. D. Fonseka ...	1	1,412	20	1 279	28	126	1,433	—	—	—	—	89·25	—
D. T Goonesekera ...	2	1,167	15	1,018	39	127	1,184	—	9	2	11	85·97	—
P. D. Anthonis ...	12	1,102	24	1,040	86	12	1,138	35	18	—	53	91·38	66·03
C. E. P Jayawardene	—	1,145	46	1,051	23	117	1,191	—	—	—	—	88·24	—
D. H. Perera ...	2	2,528	551	2,759	37	285	3,081	—	—	—	—	89·58	—
S. R. De Silva§ ...	—	696	12	554	91	63	708	—	—	—	—	78·24	—
A M Perera¶ ...	1	1,153	447	1,331	118	152	1,601	24	1	4	29	83·14	82·75
R. J. Lenore** ...	—	1,051	430	1,176	129	176	1,481	12	—	—	12	79·40	100
A. M. W Goonewardene†† ...	—	471	179	567	18	65	650	—	—	—	—	87·23	—
W D. FrancisPerera‡‡	—	597	40	411	57	169	637	17	2	6	25	64·52	68
K. D. P. Goonesekera	—	1,164	238	874	21	507	1,402	—	—	—	—	62·33	—
R D. Michael§	—	794	348	741	35	366	1,142	—	—	—	—	64·88	—
D. T. Goonesekera, jr.	§§—	323	24	237	17	93	347	—	—	3	3	68·29	—
Total ...	153	26,453	3,010	24,349	1,263	4,004	29,616	790	233	607	1,630	82·21	48·46
North-Western Province													
P Kapuruhami ...	—	1,056	5	838	48	175	1,061	—	—	—	—	78·98	—
W. Appuhami ...	—	682	36	603	17	98	718	—	—	—	—	83·98	—
R. Ranhami ...	—	1,832	47	1,622	71	186	1,879	—	—	—	—	86·32	—
P. L. Basnayeke ...	—	1,123	69	888	105	199	1,192	—	—	—	—	74·49	—
P. S. B. Pulle‖‖ ...	—	55	13	50	1	17	68	—	—	—	—	73 52	—
S. T. Pulle ...	—	942	17	747	129	83	959	24	12	—	36	77·89	66·66
Total ...	—	5,690	187	4,748	371	758	5,877	24	12	—	36	80·78	66·66
Central Province.													
J. W. Chandarasekara	1	2,171	158	1,566	141	623	2,330	13	6	2	21	67·21	61·90
M. Lebbe ...	—	2,059	121	1,909	14	257	2,180	25	—	16	41	87·56	60·97
D. E. Ratnayaka ...	—	1,675	755	1,880	10	540	2,430	27	—	31	58	77 36	46·55
W. P. Wijeysinha ...	106	1,433	901	1,659	37	744	2,440	19	—	267	286	67·99	6·64
N. L. Marikar ...	8	2,021	341	1,923	159	288	2,370	47	—	96	143	81·13	32·86
David Appu ...	7	1,975	312	1,667	40	587	2,294	25	—	29	54	72·66	46·29
D. J. Appuhami ...	1	1,678	346	1,705	78	242	2,025	164	21	58	243	84·19	67·48
Total ...	123	13,012	2,934	12,309	479	3,281	16,069	320	27	499	846	76·60	65·84
North-Central Province.													
K. R. M. Banda ...	2	1,479	587	1,355	74	639	2,068	26	1	14	41	65·52	63·41
D. A. Illukkumbura ¶¶ ...	—	191	6	71	1	125	197	—	—	1	1	36·04	—
E J. Mudianse ••• ...	—	695	6	576	3	122	701	19	—	5	24	82 16	79·16
Total ...	2	2,365	599	2,002	78	886	2,966	45	1	20	66	67·49	68·18

* Employed in Colonial Surgeon's Office.
† Retired in June, 1887.
‡ Engaged in distributing fever powders in May, 1887.
§ Engaged in distributing fever powders in May and June, 1887.
‖ Appointed in November, 1887.
¶ Engaged in distributing fever powders in June and July, 1887

** Engaged in distributing fever powders in June and July, 1887, and was sick in October, 1887.
†† Brought down to Colombo in July for animal vaccination.
‡‡ Appointed in August.
§§ Appointed in August.
‖‖ Worked only in February, 1887.
¶¶ Dismissed in February, 1887.
••• Appointed in July, 1887.

Name of Vaccinator.	Primary Vaccination. Age. Infants.	Children.	Adults.	Results. Successful.	Unsuccessful.	Unknown.	Total Number Vaccinated.	Re-vaccination. Results. Successful.	Unsuccessful.	Unknown.	Total Number Vaccinated.	Percentage of Successful. For Primary Vaccinations.	For Re-vaccinations.
Southern Province.													
G. H. Perera ...	3	1,079	307	780	39	570	1,389	10	—	23	33	56·15	30·30
C. T. Ahamadu ...	1	1,800	344	1,648	1	496	2,145	93	1	38	132	76·82	70·45
J. L. Marikar * ...	1	741	242	642	29	313	984	2	—	10	12	65·24	16·66
G. Gunawardana† ...	—	99	4	31	4	68	103	—	—	—	—	30·09	—
W. John Perera‡ ...	—	549	149	377	9	312	698	18	1	77	96	54·01	18·75
J. De Silva ...	—	1,297	204	814	9	678	1,501	—	—	—	—	54·23	—
C. L. M. A. Marikar	3	1,772	403	1,383	37	758	2,178	67	4	58	129	63·48	51·93
J. L. M. A. N. Marikar	—	2,203	450	1,817	67	769	2,653	105	7	106	218	68·48	48·16
D. S. J. Gunasekara	2	2,153	48	1,946	77	180	2,203	9	1	7	17	88·39	52·94
M. A. Gunasekara§ ...	4	1,667	336	1,435	19	553	2,007	9	2	10	21	71·49	42·85
George De Alwis ‖ ...	1	1,107	171	875	19	385	1,279	15	—	12	27	68·34	55·55
S. L. M. Ahamado ¶	1	644	141	624	2	160	786	25	2	23	50	79·38	50
P. B. Manjursaibu **	5	834	453	833	56	403	1,292	6	3	9	18	64·47	33·33
Francis Cruse†† ...	3	729	139	563	37	271	871	9	1	1	11	64·63	81·81
S. L. M. M. Sultan Bawa‡‡ ...	—	119	23	114	—	28	142	—	—	—	—	80·28	—
Total ...	24	16,793	3,414	13,882	405	5,944	20,231	368	22	374	764	68·61	48·16
Eastern Province.													
S. Assanar Lebbe ...	187	1,563	698	2,308	49	91	2,448	462	6	5	473	94·28	97·67
J. Veeracutty ...	205	1,732	436	2,082	64	227	2,373	105	—	—	105	87·78	100
C. P. Thillanayagam Pullai ...	217	1,235	213	1,538	63	64	1,665	205	3	4	212	92·37	96·69
J. Mugamadu Tamby	73	1,797	118	1,666	99	223	1,988	96	5	28	129	83·80	74·41
Swaminadar Sinnatamby ...	3	944	178	964	39	122	1,125	540	28	84	652	85·68	82·82
Sanmogam Sinnatamby ...	6	1,168	5	1,007	39	133	1,179	387	6	97	490	85·41	78·97
Total ...	691	8,439	1,648	9,565	353	860	10,778	1,795	48	218	2,061	88·74	87·09
Northern Province.													
S. Sinnappoo ...	—	2,305	130	2,347	7	81	2,435	—	—	—	—	96·38	—
Meyadeen Bawa ...	—	1,772	173	1,799	—	146	1,945	410	4	66	480	92·49	85·41
K. Thamper ...	—	2,316	91	2,236	4	167	2,407	101	1	20	122	92·89	82·87
J. Chinnaya ...	—	2,026	262	2,104	4	180	2,288	41	—	12	53	91·95	77·35
M. Valoepillai ...	—	2,429	78	2,339	3	165	2,507	—	—	—	—	93·29	—
V. Ampalam ...	—	2,438	181	2,342	—	277	2,619	—	—	—	—	89·42	—
V. J. Sapapady ...	—	1,458	671	1,893	64	172	2,129	11	4	—	15	88·91	73·33
F. Bastiampillai ...	20	988	258	981	41	244	1,266	177	2	36	215	77·48	82·32
Total ...	20	15,732	1,844	16,041	123	1,432	17,596	740	11	134	885	91·16	83·61
Province of Uva.													
S. M. Appuhami ...	293	1,030	425	1,243	118	387	1,748	12	2	1	15	71·10	80
J. C. A. Gunawardana	201	1,440	334	1,367	76	532	1,975	—	—	—	—	69·21	—
D. G. Gregory ...	233	915	82	887	13	330	1,230	—	—	1	1	72·11	—
Total ...	727	3,385	841	3,497	207	1,249	4,953	12	2	2	16	71	75
Number vaccinated by Government Vaccinators on Estates.													
N. L. Marikar ...	1	20	8	23	2	4	29	—	—	—	—	79·31	—
By vaccinators under the Superintending Medical Officers ...	805	5,815	5,259	9,464	1,334	1,081	11,879	1,367	487	586	2,440	79·67	56·02
In District Outdoor Dispensaries ...	137	199	25	323	12	26	361	—	—	—	—	89·19	—
In Civil Outdoor Dispensaries ...	269	2,174	150	2,040	243	310	2,593	52	18	59	129	78·67	40·31
Grand Total ...	2,952	100077	19,919	98,243	4,870	19,835	122948	5,513	861	2,499	8,873	79·09	62·13
In 1886 ...	7,775	103989	20,401	99,740	5,545	26,880	132165	6,368	1,548	3,654	11,570	75·46	55·03

* Engaged in distributing fever powders from January 17 to 31, 1887.
† Resigned on January 31, 1887.
‡ Resigned on June 15, 1887.
§ Appointed on February 1, 1887.
‖ Worked as Extra Vaccinator from April 10 to June 15, and succeeded W. John Perera in June.
¶ Appointed as Extra Vaccinator on April 23, 1887, and discontinued on September 15, 1887.
** Appointed as Extra Vaccinator on April 27, 1887, and discontinued on October 31, 1887.
†† Appointed as Extra Vaccinator on June 15, 1887.
‡‡ Pupil Vaccinator: worked during December, 1887.

VI.—RETURN of all Diseases treated in the

DISEASES.	Lunatic Asylum, Colombo.		General Hospital, Colombo.		De Soysa Lying-in Hospital, Colombo.		Leper Asylum, Hendala.		Civil Hospital, Panadurè.		Civil Hospital, Kalutara.		Civil Hospital, Kegalla.		Civil Hospital, Ratnapura.		Civil Hospital, Negombo.		Civil Hospital, Kurunegala.		Civil Hospital, Puttalam.		Civil Hospital, Mátélwila.		Civil Hospital, Galle.		Civil Hospital, Mátara.		Civil Hospital, Hambantota.	
	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
I.—GENERAL DISEASES																														
GROUP A.																														
Sub-Group 1.																														
Small-pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken-pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	9	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Whooping cough	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mumps ...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Simple continued fever	...	...	379	12	...	...	...	...	1	...	3	1	1	1	1	1	...	...	6	1	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric fever	...	...	43	14	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	2	1	1	4	1
Typho-malarial fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery ...	...	...	154	29	...	...	...	...	10	3	19	10	22	12	35	20	35	8	16	6	39	11	18	7	16	2	6	4	16	4
Epidemic diarrhœa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sporadic cholera	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Sub-Group 2.																														
Ague ...	...	...	785	22	...	...	...	...	40	...	71	1	32	1	45	...	114	2	260	1	111	...	113	...	154	6	25	...	54	...
Remittent fever	...	...	21	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	1	...	...	2	2	6	2	12	2	9	2	2	...	1	...	11	1
Malarial cachexia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sub-Group 3.																														
Erysipelas ...	...	...	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	4	...	6	...	1	1	...	...
Pyæmia ...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal septicæmia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Septicæmia ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sub-Group 4.																														
Primary syphilis	...	...	163	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	11	...	...	...	27	...	7	...	23	...	7	...	12	...	8	...	14	...	9	...
Secondary syphilis	...	...	84	1	...	...	...	...	10	...	9	...	4	1	24	...	11	...	18	...	2	...	6	...	15	...	7	...	10	...
Tertiary syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Congenital syphilis	...	...	3	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
Gonorrhœa ...	...	...	65	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	7	...	2	...	1	...	2	...	16	...	5	...	...	...	58	...	9	...	5	...
Phimosis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Paraphimosis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bubo (Gonorrhœal)	...	...	44	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Orchitis do.	...	...	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gonorrhœal arthritis	...	...	23	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Do. ophthalmia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Constitutional syphilis	...	...	15	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hereditary syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Balanitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gleet ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sub-Group 5.																														
Hydrophobia ...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	...	...	1808	85	...	...	1	1	68	4	121	12	82	18	133	21	175	13	358	10	184	13	163	9	270	10	66	7	110	6
GROUP B.																														
Sub-Group 1.																														
Tænia ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ascaris Lumbricoides	...	...	116	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	5	1	...	...	...	...
Guinea-worm	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Thrush ...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nematoda (round-worm)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dochmius duodenalis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sub-Group 2.																														
Mocholism ...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Delirium Tremens	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Total ...	...	...	121	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	6	2	...	...	...	...
GROUP C.																														
Debility ...	...	...	364	36	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	8	...	...	19	11	14	4	7	...	3	2	7	3	1	...	...	...
Old age ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	8	2	1	...	1	1
Congenital phimosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Single harelip	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Anus in vagina	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Imperforate anus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Fissure of lip ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	...	...	367	36	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	16	8	...	...	19	11	14	4	7	...	5	3	16	6	2	...	1	1

Government Civil and District Hospitals during 1887.

Civil Hospital, Tangalla.		Civil Hospital, Trincomalee.		Civil Hospital, Batticaloa.		Civil Hospital, Mullaittivu.		Civil Hospital, Vavuniya-Vilâpkulam.		Civil Hospital, Point Pedro.		Civil Hospital, Kandy.		Civil Hospital, Kelugaloya.		Civil Hospital, Gampola.		Civil Hospital, Badulla.		Civil Hospital, Matale.		Civil Hospital, Nuwara Eliya.		District Hospital, Haputtale.		District Hospital, Dikoya.		District Hospital, Lindula.		District Hospital, Uda Pussellawa.		District Hospital, Kalâboka.		District Hospital, Eamagala.		Total.	
Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
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...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21	...	4	...	6	...	32	...	3	...	8	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	94	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	7	...	10	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	39	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
1	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	...
...	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	1	5	2	...	...	...	...	18	3	7	...	4	...	2	...	...	...	443	22
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	56	20
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
12	1	17	5	16	1	10	2	15	3	6	1	137	36	...	...	51	21	33	20	63	23	30	3	15	8	47	21	65	28	19	3	18	4	16	6	956	302
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	4	2	...	...	6	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	4
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
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13	...	19	...	75	...	18	...	47	...	45	1	270	1	...	...	42	...	183	3	103	2	79	...	19	...	3	...	9	...	5	...	6	...	11	...	2751	40
4	1	...	...	3	...	2	...	4	...	1	...	52	4	...	...	26	4	33	5	...	...	5	1	2	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	1	...	10	...	219	25
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21	2
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	2	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	40	4
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	2
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	2
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
7	...	4	...	9	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	113	...	...	...	78	...	42	...	24	...	46	...	33	...	31	...	33	...	13	...	13	...	35	...	766	...
3	...	11	1	4	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	23	...	35	...	18	...	15	...	9	...	9	...	6	...	16	...	20	...	3	...	9	...	10	...	397	3
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
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2	...	5	...	1	...	3	...	...	...	2	...	51	...	...	...	19	...	14	...	8	...	11	...	12	...	10	...	52	...	7	...	2	...	3	...	376	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	13	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	15	...
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...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	15	...
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...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
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...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
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42	2	59	6	111	1	35	2	67	3	64	3	658	43	35	...	268	27	353	30	232	27	218	5	100	11	147	25	226	31	53	3	55	4	86	6	6348	438
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	1	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	139	12
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...
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...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	2	...	5	...	1	...	...	...	4	...	2	...	3	...	...	...	157	13
...	...	4	...	22	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	61	13	...	...	...	...	13	4	6	1	14	2	7	...	32	15	4	...	...	...	9	1	6	...	608	103
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17	7
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
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...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
...	...	4	...	22	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	61	13	...	...	6	3	15	4	6	1	14	2	7	...	32	15	4	...	...	...	9	1	6	...	634	112

Diseases.	Lunatic Asylum, Colombo.		General Hospital, Colombo.		De Soysa Lying-in Hospital, Colombo.		Leper Asylum, Hendala.		Civil Hospital, Panadurá.		Civil Hospital, Kalutara.		Civil Hospital, Kégalla.		Civil Hospital, Ratnapura.		Civil Hospital, Negombo.		Civil Hospital, Kurunégala.		Civil Hospital, Puttalam.		Civil Hospital, Matélla.		Civil Hospital, Galle.		Civil Hospital, Mátara.		Civil Hospital, Hambantota.	
Group D.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
Rheumatic fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
Rheumatism ...	...	...	461	7	...	...	1	...	12	...	11	...	8	...	12	1	22	...	64	1	11	...	19	...	22	...	18	...	6	...
Osteo-arthritis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Non-malignant new growth ...	...	...	37	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	3	...	9	...	...	...	...	...
Malignant do. ...	...	...	49	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	3	...	4	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	22	1	4	...	...	...
Tubercle ...	...	...	8	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Tubercle of lung ...	...	...	33	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	2	4	3	...	...	2	...	...	...	6	1	5	2	16	2	...	...	...	...
Scrofula ...	...	...	25	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	1	...
Leprosy ...	...	...	20	1	...	...	231	26	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	2	...	1	...	...	...
Parangi ...	...	...	23	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	5	...	3	.	6	...	8	...	205	2	4	...	15	...	40	...	34	...	...	...
Anæmia ...	...	...	331	42	...	...	...	...	53	5	85	21	96	21	77	28	117	23	121	28	61	12	41	2	159	30	43	6	16	1
Diabetes mellitus ...	...	...	16	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dropsy ...	...	...	55	17	...	...	...	...	11	3	1	1	...	...	..	...	...	...	1	1	1	1	38	10	3	2	...	...	...	...
Rickets ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Peritonitis (tubercular) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	...	...	1058	94	...	...	232	26	79	8	110	25	114	25	102	29	155	24	392	32	85	14	118	16	279	36	100	6	23	1
II.—Local Diseases.																														
1.—*Nervous System.*																														
***Sub-Section* 1.**																														
Inflammation of brain ...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sclerosis of the posterior columns of the spinal cord ...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Inflammation of the membranes of the brain ...	...	...	7	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Congestion of the brain ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chronic hydrocephalus ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
Meningitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Myelitis ...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Neuritis ...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Inflammation of the brain and its membranes ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
***Sub-Section* 2.**																														
Apoplexy ...	...	...	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Paralysis ...	...	...	26	3	...	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	4	1	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
Hemiplegia ...	...	...	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
Paraplegia ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	1	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hysteria ...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Infantile convulsions ...	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
Neuralgia ...	...	...	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
Megrim ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sciatica ...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tetanus ...	...	...	15	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
Epilepsy ...	...	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	4	...	1	...
Chorea ...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Laryngismus stridulus ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hemiparaplegia ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hystero-epilepsy ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
***Sub-Section* 3.**																														
Mania ...	229	11	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Melancholia ...	38	9	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dementia ...	77	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Idiotcy ...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Suspected insanity ...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Imbecility ...	20	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
General paralysis of the insane	4	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Under observation ...	24	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal insanity ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Epileptic insanity ...	69	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	467	30	100	12	...	...	2	...	2	...	6	2	12	1	5	...	13	5	3	1	4	...	5	3	15	4	8	...	1	...
2.—*Diseases of the Eye.*																														
Conjunctivitis and other diseases of the eye ...	...	...	117	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	4	...	1	...	1	...	4	...	2	...	1	...	13	...	...	...	18	...
3.—*Diseases of the Ear.*																														
Inflam. memb. tym. and other diseases of the ear ...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
4.—*Diseases of the Nose.*																														
Epistaxis and other diseases of the nose ...	...	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...

Civil Hospital, Tuppella.		Civil Hospital, Trincomalee.		Civil Hospital, Batticaloa.		Civil Hospital, Mullaitivu.		Civil Hospital, Vavuniya-Vilúpkulam.		Civil Hospital, Point Pedro.		Civil Hospital, Kandy.		Civil Hospital Katugastota.		Civil Hospital, Gampola.		Civil Hospital, Badulla.		Civil Hospital, Matale.		Civil Hospital, Nuwara Eliya.		District Hospital, Hapitalé.		District Hospital, Dikoya.		District Hospital, Lindula.		District Hospital, Uda Pussellawa.		District Hospital, Kelébokka.		District Hospital, Lunugala.		Total.	
Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
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1	...	7	1	39	...	5	...	28	...	9	...	146	...	...	...	35	...	26	1	24	2	20	...	4	...	13	...	24	...	14	...	15	...	7	...	1084	12
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
1	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	3	...	5	...	...	...	5	...	16	...	5	...	1	...	...	...	5	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	102	1
1	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	5	1	1	1	4	1	3	...	2	...	3	...	2	1	3	...	3	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	115	16
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	6
...	...	...	...	4	1	...	...	...	...	4	...	35	10	...	...	11	3	...	...	11	3	4	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	139	39
...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	...	...	3	...	2	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	56	2
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	266	29
...	...	13	...	8	...	297	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	79	...	1	...	8	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	749	2
13	...	20	2	13	...	6	...	22	...	37	1	427	53	...	...	274	54	55	8	166	22	28	2	9	4	15	3	40	5	15	2	23	1	15	...	2378	376
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	24	1
5	...	...	...	20	2	6	4	22	2	3	...	86	28	...	...	...	...	12	4	63	27	7	4	19	7	44	27	...	...	...	...	49	18	12	4	453	162
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	3	...
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21	...	46	3	86	3	314	4	73	2	59	1	714	92	80	1	338	58	122	13	272	54	71	7	35	12	81	30	73	6	31	3	90	20	36	4	5389	649
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	4	2
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1	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	3	...	2	...	9	1	...	...	...	...	2	...	5	3	...	...	2	...	1	...	74	8
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	1	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27	3
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	4
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...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
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1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	3	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	43	1
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...
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...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	43	9
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...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...
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...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
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2	...	...	...	8	...	2	...	1	...	3	...	27	3	...	...	14	2	11	6	15	3	4	1	7	...	11	5	14	5	1	1	8	2	2	...	773	86
2	...	2	...	1	...	3	...	3	...	...	...	13	..	...	...	8	1	13	...	3	...	8	...	...	...	9	1	8	...	5	...	4	...	...	...	238	3
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	14	...
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Diseases.	Lunatic Asylum, Colombo.		General Hospital, Colombo.		De Soysa Lying-in Hospital, Colombo.		Leper Asylum, Hendala.		Civil Hospital, Pánadurá.		Civil Hospital, Kalutara.		Civil Hospital, Kégalla.		Civil Hospital, Ratnapura.		Civil Hospital, Negombo.		Civil Hospital, Kurunégala.		Civil Hospital, Puttalam.		Civil Hospital, Máturíta.		Civil Hospital, Galle.		Civil Hospital, Mátara.		Civil Hospital, Hambantota.	
	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
5.—Circulatory System.																														
Valve disease of the heart ...	...	...	4	3	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Hypertrophy of the heart ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Aneurism saccular ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Phlebitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Fatty degeneration of heart...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phlegmasia dolens ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pericarditis	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Thrombosis of veins ...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nævus	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Palpitation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cyanosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dilatation of the heart ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
Angina pectoris ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	...	...	9	4	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	1	...	...	3	2	2	2	...	...	1	1	6	...	...	...	...	...
6.—Respiratory System.																														
Laryngitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
Bronchitis	...	...	231	4	...	...	...	...	3	...	9	2	2	...	3	1	4	1	11	...	13	...	4	1	8	...	2	...	6	...
Asthma	...	...	90	1	...	...	...	...	3	...	1	...	1	...	3	...	2	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	5	...	5	...	3	...
Pneumonia	...	...	49	15	...	...	...	...	1	...	7	1	2	...	...	...	11	5	39	23	14	4	7	5	2	1	1	1	15	7
Pleurisy	...	...	14	4	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	4	1	...	...	...	...
Pneumonic phthisis, acute ...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Do. chronic...	...	...	137	49	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	3	2	6	3	2	2	12	3	4	1	...	...	3	...	6	1	4	1
Hæmorrhage of the lung ..	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gangrene of the lung ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Catarrhal bronchitis ...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hæmoptysis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Œdema of the lung ...	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	...	...	528	75	...	...	...	...	13	...	19	4	9	2	12	4	22	9	65	26	32	5	15	7	24	2	14	2	29	8
7.—Digestive System.																														
Stomatitis	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Sore throat	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Quinsy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dyspepsia	...	...	17	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	2	...	2	...	4	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Gastrodynia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteritis	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hernia	...	...	29	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhœa	...	...	658	182	...	...	...	...	25	11	13	10	23	13	35	22	32	16	78	32	32	13	24	10	54	28	20	11	5	1
Constipation	...	...	34	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
Colic	...	...	48	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	7	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
Piles	...	...	17	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...
Fistula in ano ...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	...
Hepatitis	...	...	66	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	4	1	4	...	1	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...
Jaundice	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Ascites	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	3	...	2	1	1	...	...	...	4	1	6	1	2	...	2	...	4	...	...	...	...	...
Peritonitis	...	...	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Abscess of liver ..	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	1	1	...	...	1	1	3	...	...	...	...	...
Noma	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ranula	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Follicular tonsillitis ...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Inflammation of the stomach	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Congestion of the liver ...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cirrhosis of the liver ...	...	...	9	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Typhlitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chronic inflammation of the stomach	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Prolapsus of the rectum ..	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	1	...	...	...	...
Obstruction of the intestines	...	...	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gastritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Prolapsus of the anus ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lardaceous liver ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
Fissure of the anus ..	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Intussusception of intestine	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...
Vomiting	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Intestinal fistula ...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Abscess in the sub-peritoneal tissue	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Post-pharyngeal abscess ...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Abscess of the dental periostenum	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Atrophy of liver ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Civil Hospital, Tangalle.		Civil Hospital, Trincomalee.		Civil Hospital, Batticaloa.		Civil Hospital, Mullaittivu.		Civil Hospital, Vavuniya-Vilankulam.		Civil Hospital, Point Pedro.		Civil Hospital, Kandy.		Civil Hospital Katugastota.		Civil Hospital, Gampola.		Civil Hospital, Badulla.		Civil Hospital, Mátalé.		Civil Hospital, Nuwara Eliya.		District Hospital, Hapuṭalé.		District Hospital, Dikoya.		District Hospital, Lindula.		District Hospital, Uda Pussellawa.		District Hospital, Kelébokka.		District Hospital, Lunugalla.		Total.	
Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
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...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	3	2
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...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	1
...	...	3	...	2	...	...	...	6	...	10	...	82	...	...	...	9	...	25	...	13	1	11	1	4	1	3	1	21	1	14	...	5	1	11	...	515	15
1	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	2	...	2	...	15	...	...	...	4	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	151	1
4	...	...	...	5	2	5	2	6	1	1	1	65	15	...	...	23	7	24	...	33	13	19	7	32	11	27	8	29	12	22	4	17	5	5	1	461	158
1	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	5	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	46	6
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	24	5
1	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	3	1	7	1	2	1	204	69
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
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7	1	6	...	11	2	6	2	15	1	13	1	166	15	...	...	51	10	60	9	47	14	31	8	40	12	31	10	68	15	42	5	32	7	18	2	1426	258
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	11	...
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...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
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...	...	13	4	22	6	5	...	26	10	3	1	205	67	...	...	57	28	78	36	33	13	22	4	24	15	51	34	111	47	12	8	14	4	19	6	1694	632
...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	2	...	1	1	1	1	...	...	2	...	2	...	2	...	1	...	3	...	1	...	61	2
...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	...	...	3	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	2	1	1	...	9	...	1	...	10	...	2	...	102	1
1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	43	1
...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	...
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...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	3	1	1	1	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	1	...	4	1	...	...	31	5
2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	4	1	...	...	1	1	2	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40	8
1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	8
...	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	4	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18	7
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...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	2	...	...	3	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	13	6
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Diseases.	Lunatic Asylum, Colombo.		General Hospital, Colombo.		De Soyza Lying-in Hospital, Colombo.		Leper Asylum, Hendala.		Civil Hospital, Pánadurá.		Civil Hospital, Kalutara.		Civil Hospital, Kegalla.		Civil Hospital, Ratnapura.		Civil Hospital, Negombo.		Civil Hospital, Kurunegala.		Civil Hospital, Puttalam.		Civil Hospital, Máráwila.		Civil Hospital, Galle.		Civil Hospital, Matara.		Civil Hospital, Hambantota.	
	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
7.—Digestive System—contd.																														
Peritonitis puerperal ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Ulcerative stomatitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Follicular inflammation of the pharyux	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Salivation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Volvulus of intestines ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	...	...	921	195	...	...	...	...	32	12	23	11	24	13	39	22	51	21	105	37	42	14	35	11	93	30	21	11	8	1
8.—Lymphatic System.																														
Enlargement of spleen ...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	1	...	...	1	...	10	...	...	...	...	...	4	...
Splenitis	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Inflammation of lymph-glands	...	...	14	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...
Suppuration of lymph-glands	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	4	...	...	...	...	...
Inflammation of lymph-vessels	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cystic goitre	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	...	...	26	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	1	...	8	1	4	...	5	...	11	...	5	...	...	...	5	...
9.—Urinary System.																														
Nephritis acute ...	...	...	10	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Bright's disease ...	...	...	8	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	4	1	...	...	1	...	1	...	4	...	...	...	...	...
Cystitis	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	1	...	2	...	3	1	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...
Calculus of the bladder ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
Retention of urine ...	...	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Incontinence of urine ...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Inflammation of the bladder...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hœmaturia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Calculus of the kidney ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Albuminuria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Calculus of the bladder (uric acid)	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Recto-vesical fistula ...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Disseminated suppurative nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Diabetes insipidus ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Chronic nephritis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	...	...	38	4	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	4	1	1	...	7	1	3	...	5	1	2	...	12	...	2	...	...	...
10.—Generative System.																														
Stricture of urethra ...	...	...	34	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	2	...	1	...	2	...	8	...	...	...	4	...	2	...	...	...	2	...
Balanitis / Phimosis } (not gonorrhœal)	...	...	18	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...
Hydrocele	...	...	27	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Orchitis (not gonorrhœal) ...	...	...	16	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...
Urinary fistula ...	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Extravasation of urine ...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Paraphimosis (not gonorrhl.)	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...
Sloughing of scrotum ...	...	...	10	5	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	3	...	...	...
Hæmatocele of tunica vaginalis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...
Diseases of women ...	...	...	73	6	145	1	...	...	3	...	4	...	3	...	...	...	5	...	14	1	1	...	2	...	28	3	21	...	1	...
Spasmodic stricture of urethra	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Urethritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
Impacted calculus of the urethra	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gangrene of the penis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...
Ulcer of penis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Urinary abscess ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hypertophy of the prostrate gland	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Spermatorrhœa ...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Inflammation of the testicle...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hydrocele of tunica vaginalis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
Abscess of penis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Abscess of scrotum ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Vaginal fistula ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	...	...	195	11	145	1	...	...	9	...	20	...	13	1	1	...	13	...	29	1	3	...	10	...	48	3	41	...	6	...

Civil Hospital, Tangalle.		Civil Hospital, Trincomalee.		Civil Hospital, Batticaloa.		Civil Hospital, Mullaitivu.		Civil Hospital, Vavuniya-Vilankulam.		Civil Hospital, Point Pedro.		Civil Hospital, Kandy.		Civil Hospital, Katugastota.		Civil Hospital, Gampola.		Civil Hospital, Badulla.		Civil Hospital, Matale.		Civil Hospital, Nuwara Eliya.		District Hospital, Haputale.		District Hospital, Pitiya.		District Hospital, Lindula.		District Hospital, Uda Pussellawa.		District Hospital, Kelaniya.		District Hospital, Lunugala.		TOTAL.	
Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
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4	1	16	6	32	6	8	...	30	10	7	1	258	71	...	...	104	30	93	40	52	16	30	6	38	19	66	36	148	49	24	9	36	6	26	7	2366	691
...	...	...	...	9	...	6	...	3	...	21	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	4	...	2	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	83	1
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	...
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...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	...
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...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	3
...	...	4	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	5	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	33	7
...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	29	2
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1	...	4	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	...	...	...	4	...	1	...	2	...	1	...	1	...	2	1	9	2	3	2	...	...	...	...	117	14
4	...	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	...	...	...	1	...	7	...	2	...	...	...	2	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	96	...
8	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	19	...	...	...	3	...	5	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	82	...
1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	41	...
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1	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	41	3	...	...	7	1	5	...	4	...	2	...	1	...	2	...	3	...	5	1	5	1	...	...	38[illegible]	18
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
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15	...	[illegible]	1	[illegible]	...	...	...	[illegible]	...	7	...	89	3	...	...	21	1	22	2	13	...	7	...	7	...	19	1	9	...	8	1	10	1	3	...	767	27

Diseases.	Lunatic Asylum, Colombo.		General Hospital, Colombo.		De Soyza Lying-in Hospital, Colombo.		Leper Asylum, Heendala.		Civil Hospital, Pánadurá.		Civil Hospital, Kalutara.		Civil Hospital, Kégalla.		Civil Hospital, Ratnapura.		Civil Hospital, Negombo.		Civil Hospital, Kurunégala.		Civil Hospital, Puttalam.		Civil Hospital, Mátélé.		Civil Hospital, Galle.		Civil Hospital, Mátára.		Civil Hospital, Hambantota.	
	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
11.—*Organs of Locomotion.*																														
Ostitis ...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Caries ..	...	...	12	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Inflammation of muscles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Necrosis ...	...	...	17	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	10	2	2	...	6	...	6	...	2	...	...	...
Synovitis ...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	2	...
Abscess of the joint	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
Ankylosis ...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Knock-knee ...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lateral curvature of the spine	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Angular do. ...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gangrene of the muscles ...	...	...	11	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
Contraction of tendons ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Psoas abscess ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
Relaxation of ligaments ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Osteitis deformans ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Atrophy of muscles ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Periostitis ...	...	...	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Arthritis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Thecal abscess ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Inflamed bursa ...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Anterior curvature of spine...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Club-hand ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Ulceration of cartilage ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Periostitis diffuse ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Do. circumscribed ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
Ganglion ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Ankylosis fibrous ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Inflammation of tendons ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Caires of spine ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	...	...	67	9	...	...	1	...	3	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	12	1	10	2	3	...	7	...	24	...	6	1	3	...
12.—*Connective Tissue.*																														
Inflammation ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Abscess ...	...	...	197	3	...	...	...	...	4	1	13	1	4	...	9	...	21	...	22	2	5	...	8	...	39	2	6	1	6	...
Slough ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	...	...	197	3	...	...	...	...	4	1	13	1	4	...	9	...	21	...	22	2	5	...	8	...	39	2	6	1	6	...
13.—*Skin.*																														
Erythema ...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Urticaria ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Eczema ...	...	...	77	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	4	...	9	...	...	...	5	...	6	...	5	...	2	...
Impetigo ...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ecthyma ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pityriasis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Psoriasis ...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	4	...	2	...	11	...	3	...	...	...	1	...
Herpes ...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Ulcer ...	...	...	889	14	...	...	...	...	38	...	40	...	57	1	44	...	124	6	281	9	43	...	122	3	93	1	112	...	48	1
Boil ...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Carbuncle ...	...	...	5	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...
Gangrene of skin ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Senile gangrene ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
Bed sore ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whitlow ...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Lupus ...	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Wen ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
Ringworm ...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Itch ...	...	...	215	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	2	...	11	...	7	...	8	...	13	...	7	...	5	...	26	...	16	...	4	...
Cicatrix resulting from burn	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lichen ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Miliaria ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Zona ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Onychia ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Erythema nodosum ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthiriasis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	...	...	1211	15	...	...	...	...	47	...	45	2	71	1	54	...	138	5	307	9	60	1	144	3	136	1	136	...	58	1
III.—Poisons.																														
By arsenic ...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
By opium ...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
By kerosine oil ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
By alcohol ...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
By stramonium ...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Civil Hospital, Tangalle.		Civil Hospital, Trincomalee.		Civil Hospital, Batticaloa.		Civil Hospital, Mullaitivu.		Civil Hospital, Vavuniya-Vilankulam.		Civil Hospital, Point Pedro.		Civil Hospital, Kandy.		Civil Hospital a Katugastota.		Civil Hospital, Gampola.		Civil Hospital, Badulla.		Civil Hospital, Matale.		Civil Hospital, Nuwara Eliya.		District Hospital, Hapatalé.		District Hospital, Dikoya.		District Hospital, Lindula.		District Hospital, Uda Pussellawa.		District Hospital, Kelébokka.		District Hospital, Lunugala.		Totals.	
Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
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2	..	4	...	6	...	1	..	7	...	3	...	53	...	5		18	1	32	1	18	1	18	1	10	...	28	2	30	1	12	..	7	1	9	...	597	18
...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	2	..	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	.		..	...	...	...	...	...	4	2
2	...	4		6	.	1	...	7	...	3	..	57	2	5	...	18	1	33	1	18	1	18	1	10	...	28	2	30	1	12	..	7	1	9	...	602	20
1	...	...	..	..	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	..	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	..	...	...	...	...	4	...
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3	...		...	1	..	1	...	4	...	2	...	26	...	...	.	12	...	4	...	6	1	11	...	4	...	...	...	5	..	..	..	3	..	...	..	196	1
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30	1	25	...	122	...	45	...	92	...	18	...	385	1	64	...	86	2	72	4	82	2	14	...	28	2	25	1	34	...	4	..	9	...	27	...	3053	47
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.	...	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	2	..	...	...	..	..	...	..	...	..	17	...
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1	...	...	...	15	...	33	...	27	...	40	...	38	...	..	..	23	...	10	...	9	...	3	...	2	...	4	...	1	...	2	...	1	...	..	.	528	...
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37	2	26	...	139	...	79	...	128	...	61	..	496	1	64	...	126	2	91	4	100	3	36	...	39	2	31	1	43	1	9	...	14		27	...	3046	54
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	...	...	.	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	12	..
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Diseases	Lunatic Asylum, Colombo.		General Hospital, Colombo.		De Soyza Lying-in Hospital, Colombo.		Leper Asylum, Hendala.		Civil Hospital, Pánadúré.		Civil Hospital, Kalutara.		Civil Hospital, Kégalla.		Civil Hospital, Ratnapura.		Civil Hospital, Negombo.		Civil Hospital, Kurunegala.		Civil Hospital, Puttalám.		Civil Hospital, Mantotte.		Civil Hospital, Galle.		Civil Hospital, Matara.		Civil Hospital, Hambantota.	
	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
III.—Poisons—*cont.*																														
By corrosive lead ...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
By oxalic acid ...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
By belladonna ...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Poisonous fish ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Mercurial inflammation of the dental periosteum ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Poisoned wound by snake ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
By datura	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	...	...	13	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
IV.—Injuries.																														
General.																														
Burns and scalds ...	...	...	13	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	1	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	1	5	1	...	...
Multiple injury ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	1	2	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	2	1	...	...	...
Privation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Starvation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...
Asphyxia from strangulation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Local.																														
Burns and scalds ...	...	...	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	8	1	...	...	2	...	3	...	...	...	...	...
Contusion	...	...	187	2	...	...	...	...	7	...	10	...	1	...	3	...	8	...	17	1	1	...	2	...	39	...	12	...	...	...
Concussion of brain ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	2	...
Wounds	...	...	398	5	...	...	...	...	23	1	42	2	38	1	21	...	56	...	112	3	10	...	41	...	111	2	46	1	6	1
Wounds from gunshot ...	...	...	13	3	...	...	...	...	3	1	1	...	6	...	4	...	7	...	4	2	...	...	2	1	7	...	5	2	1	...
Sprain	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	...
Dislocation ...	...	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	...	...	...
Fracture	...	...	116	10	...	...	...	...	7	1	10	3	10	2	1	...	15	1	10	2	3	1	5	2	51	3	7	1	...	...
Rupture of urethra ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Concussion of spinal cord ...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	...
Foreign body in pharynx ...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Compression of brain ...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Wound of the cornea ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Foreign body in œsophagus ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Wounds of abdomen ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Foreign body in skin and sub-cutaneous tissue ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...
Abrasion	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
Foreign body in conjunctiva	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Wounds of the eyelid ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Foreign body in external meatus of ear ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	...	...	788	22	...	...	...	...	44	4	71	7	76	12	30	1	89	2	151	9	15	1	22	3	266	9	78	5	9	1

Civil Hospital, Tangalle.		Civil Hospital, Trincomalee.		Civil Hospital, Batticaloe.		Civil Hospital, Mullaitivu.		Civil Hospital, Vavuniya-Vilankulam.		Civil Hospital, Point Pedro.		Civil Hospital, Kandy.		Civil Hospital, Kataragama.		Civil Hospital, Gampola.		Civil Hospital, Badulla.		Civil Hospital, Matale.		Civil Hospital, Nuwara Eliya.		District Hospital, Haputale.		District Hospital, Diyatalawa.		District Hospital, Lindula.		District Hospital, Uda Pussellawa.		District Hospital, Kelebokka.		District Hospital, Lunugalle.		Total.	
Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
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...	...	1	...	3	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	15	4	...	...	5	2	...	...	4	1	3	2	...	...	8	6	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	78	21
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	...	...	2	...	4	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	8	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	42	8
...	...	24	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	33	10
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1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	2	...	2	...	9	4	...	...	23	7	...	...	...	...	2	...	73	13
9	...	...	...	9	...	1	...	1	...	6	...	42	...	...	...	6	...	5	...	12	...	7	...	3	...	6	...	7	...	2	...	11	...	1	...	415	3
2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	...
43	1	18	1	30	1	1	...	14	...	23	...	123	3	...	...	62	1	28	...	40	5	18	...	33	1	31	...	51	...	10	...	24	...	6	...	1429	29
2	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	2	...	2	1	5	1	5	3	4	1	...	...	1	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	87	15
...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	20	...
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8	...	3	...	7	1	...	...	...	...	8	...	19	2	...	...	17	2	11	...	12	1	2	...	5	1	16	...	9	2	2	...	4	...	1	...	367	35
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
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65	1	48	6	51	2	3	...	27	...	42	...	212	10	4	1	99	7	60	3	76	8	40	6	56	7	73	8	98	9	17	1	44	..	10	...	2640	144

Table IX.—Surgical Operations.

	For Disease.		For Accident.	
Amputation.	Number.	Deaths.	Number.	Deaths.
Upper Extremities :—				
Arm	1	—	9	—
Forearm	3	1	6	—
Thumbs	—	—	1	—
Fingers	1	—	19	—
Carpo-metacarpal	—	—	1	—
Lower Extremities :—				
Thigh at middle third	1	—	—	—
Thigh at lower third	—	—	4	—
Leg	3	1	7	—
Medio-tarsus	1	1	—	—
Toes	1	—	3	—
Total	11	3	50	—
Other Operations.				
Operation for cataract	2	—	—	—
Removal of foreign body from cornea	—	—	1	—
Iridectomy	6	—	—	—
Excision of eye-ball	1	—	1	—
Extraction of lens	2	—	—	—
Removal of cancerous growth	1	—	—	—
Excision of tumor	12	—	—	—
Plastic operation for harelip	1	—	—	—
Excision of prepuce	122	—	—	—
Incision for hæmatocele	2	—	—	—
Excision of elephantiasis scrotum	1	—	—	—
Removal of breast	1	—	—	—
Excision of pile	1	—	—	—
Excision of hypertrophied labia	1	—	—	—
Radical cure for hydrocele	6	—	—	—
Amputation of penis	9	—	—	—
Paracentesis thoracis	1	—	—	—
Operation for strangulated hernia	5	—	1	—
Reparative operation for imperforate anus	1	—	—	—
Incision into abscess	2	1	—	—
Trephining of skull	3	—	2	—
Ligature of brachial artery	2	—	1	—
Reduction of dislocation of shoulder	2	—	—	—
Paracentesis abdominis	9	3	—	—
Removal of tumor	30	—	—	—
Excision of cicatrical tissue for acquired club-hand	1	—	—	—
Opening of abscess	2	—	—	—
Jumbar colotomy	1	1	—	—
Tapping of hydrocele	32	—	—	—
Ovariotomy	3	2	—	—
Prepuce slit up	3	—	—	—
For relief of strangulated hernia with opening of sac	1	—	—	—
Reparative operation for harelip	3	—	—	—
Extraction of foreign body from œsophagus	1	1	—	—
Removal of sebaceous cyst	2	—	—	—
Sequestrotomy	9	—	—	—
Extension in ankylosis	2	—	—	—
Removal of portion of rectum	1	1	—	—
Division of fistula in ano	1	—	—	—
Excision of condyloma	1	—	—	—
Tapping for ascites	1	—	—	—
Aspiration of abscesses	2	1	—	—
Removal of hypertrophied labia	1	—	—	—
Division of sinuses	4	—	—	—
Excision of papiloma	1	—	—	—
Excision of lipoma	1	—	—	—
Removal of fibroma of vagina	1	—	—	—
Tapping of cyst of ovary	3	1	—	—
Castration	1	—	—	—
Operation for ununited fracture of thigh	—	—	1	—
Division of prepuce	1	—	—	—
Excision of epithelioma	4	—	—	—
Urethrotomy	1	—	—	—
Forcible dilatation of stricture of urethra	2	—	—	—
Reduction of paraphimosis	1	—	—	—
Scraping of lupus	3	—	—	—
Operation for nævus	2	—	—	—
Incision into scrotum and perineum for extravasation of urine	1	—	—	—
Forcible dilatation of sphincter ani	4	—	—	—
Reduction of obstruction of bowels	1	—	—	—
Lateral lithotomy	2	—	—	—

Other Operations.	For Disease. Number.	For Disease. Deaths.	For Accident. Number.	For Accident. Deaths.
Excision of cancer of penis ...	1	—	—	—
Radical cure of hernia	3	—	—	—
Operation for vesico-vaginal fistula	1	—	—	—
Paracentesis of the abdomen for ovarian cyst	2	—	—	—
Operation for phimosis ...	2	—	—	—
Stretching of nerve	3	—	—	—
Crushing of piles	1	—	—	—
Elevating bone in depressed skull ...	5	3	—	—
Removal of cicatrices	1	—	1	—
Opening of abscess of liver ...	2	—	—	—
Paracentesis thoracis et abdominis...	1	1	—	—
Introduction of trocar and canula for abscess of liver	1	—	—	—
Total ...	346	15	8	—
Grand Total ...	357	18	58	—

Table X.—Statement showing the Expenditure incurred on account of the Police Hospital, Maradána, and the several Immigrant Hospitals, during 1887.

	For Diet.	Servants.	Equipment.	Contingencies.	Salary of Medical Officer.	Total.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Police Hospital.						
Maradána	1,688 72	—	121 47	339 63	1,500 0	3,649 82
Immigrant Hospitals.						
Dambulla	1,873 45	1,996 50	198 67	226 38	1,300 0	5,595 0
Anurádhapura	2,702 0	1,068 0	321 53	62 33	1,200 0	5,353 86
Mihintalé	1,355 14	579 28	115 62	33 56	900 0	2,983 60
Mannár	794 26	270 10	—	—	900 0	1,964 36
Vankálai and Pésálai	660 53	270 10	—	—	240 0	1,170 63
Puliyadiyirakkam	591 20	240 0	16 4	15 0	600 0	1,462 24
Total ...	7,976 58	4,423 98	651 86	337 27	5,140 0	18,529 69
Grand Total ...	9,665 30	4,423 98	773 33	676 90	6,640 0	22,179 51

XI.—RETURN, separating the Malabars into those sent in by the Police and those voluntarily seeking Admission.

NAME OF HOSPITAL.	MIXED RACES.		MALABARS.							Total of all Malabars.		Total of Mixed Races and Malabars.	
			Sent in by Police.		Voluntarily seeking Admission.		Sent in from Estates.						
							Estate Labourers.		Death rate of Estate Labourers.				
	Treated.	Died.	Treated.	Died.	Treated.	Died.	Treated.	Died.		Treated.	Died.	Treated.	Died.
Civil Hospital, Colombo ...	5065	388	445	75	2047	118	—	—	—	2492	193	7557	581
De Soyas Lying-in Hospital ...	145	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	145	1
Civil Hospital, Pánadurá ...	274	27	—	—	26	2	3	—	—	29	2	303	29
Do. Kalutara ...	236	43	14	4	33	6	153	13	8·49	200	23	436	66
Do. Kégalla ...	167	24	—	—	37	14	228	45	19·73	265	59	432	83
Do. Ratnapura ...	255	37	5	3	60	15	68	22	32·35	133	40	388	77
Do. Negombo ...	543	60	13	8	153	25	19	2	10·52	185	35	728	95
Do. Kurunégala ...	1207	95	—	—	189	27	75	13	17·33	264	40	1471	135
Do Puttalam ...	302	25	—	—	152	24	—	—	—	152	24	454	49
Do. Máráwila ...	398	31	—	—	150	25	—	—	—	150	25	548	56
Do. Galle ...	1129	91	14	4	60	3	52	7	13·46	126	14	1255	105
Do. Mátara ..	443	29	—	—	26	3	2	1	50·00	28	4	471	33
Do. Hambantota ...	179	8	—	—	90	11	—	—	—	90	11	269	19
Do. Tangalla ...	183	6	—	—	16	1	—	—	—	16	1	199	7
Do. Trincomalee ...	196	21	—	—	32	4	—	—	—	32	4	228	25
Do. Batticaloa ...	415	14	—	—	69	3	—	—	—	69	3	484	17
Do. Mullaittívu ..	438	8	—	—	19	—	—	—	—	19	—	457	8
Do. V.-Vilápkulam	210	7	—	—	139	9	—	—	—	139	9	349	16
Do. Point Pedro ...	277	6	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	4	—	281	6
Do. Kandy ...	1950	119	99	26	405	51	364	59	16·20	868	136	2818	255
Do. Katugastota ...	158	—	—	—	26	1	—	—	—	26	1	184	1
Do. Gampola ...	509	26	26	6	156	22	377	88	23·34	559	116	1068	142
Do. Badulla ...	599	56	23	11	86	13	186	35	18·81	295	59	894	115
Do. Mátalé ...	400	39	9	2	164	30	275	56	20·36	448	88	848	127
Do. Nuwara Eliya ..	332	15	—	—	53	2	100	19	19·00	153	21	485	36
Total ...	16010	1176	648	139	4192	409	1902	360	—	6742	908	22752	2084
Percentage of Deaths to Cases...	—	7·34	—	21·45	—	9·75	—	18·92	—	—	13·46	—	9·15
District Hospital, Haputalé ...	94	11	3	3	50	11	202	38	18·81	255	52	349	63
Do. Dikoya ...	75	6	32	13	16	2	417	114	27·33	465	129	540	135
Do. Lindula ...	101	1	24	6	54	4	563	109	19·36	641	119	742	120
Do. Uda Pussellâwa	16	—	2	2	16	2	185	22	11·89	203	26	219	26
Do. Kelébokka ...	42	5	3	1	12	1	275	36	14·00	272	38	314	43
Do. Lunugala ...	39	3	5	1	34	4	148	11	7·43	187	16	226	19
Do. Maskeliya ...	—	—	—	—	4	—	9	—	—	13	—	13	—
Do. Balangoda ...	32	8	3	1	3	—	45	6	13·33	51	7	83	15
Do. Rakwána ...	11	2	—	—	—	—	25	6	24·00	25	6	36	8
Total ...	410	36	72	27	189	24	1851	342	18·47	2112	393	2522	429
Percentage of Deaths to Cases	—	8·78	—	37·5	—	12·69	—	18·47	—	—	18·60	—	17·01
Lunatic Asylum, Colombo ..	369	25	—	—	98	5	—	—	—	98	5	467	30
Leper Asylum, Hendala ...	219	26	—	—	18	1	—	—	—	18	1	237	27
Total ...	17008	1263	720	166	4497	439	3753	702	—	8970	1307	25978	2570
Percentage of Deaths to Cases...	—	7·42	—	23·05	—	9·76	—	18·70	—	—	14·57	—	9·89

Table XII.—Statement showing Average Strength, Admissions into Hospital, and Average Daily Sick, with the Ratio of Admissions and Deaths per 1,000 of Average Strength, for all Diseases for each Jail in Ceylon.

Jails.	Average Strength.	Ratio per 1,000.								Admitted per 1,000 of Average Strength.				
		Admissions into Hospital.	Average Daily Sick.	Deaths from						Dysentery and Diarrhœa.	Fevers.	Respiratory Diseases.	Injuries.	All Causes.
				Dysentery and Diarrhœa.	Fevers.	Respiratory Diseases.	Injuries.	Other Diseases.	All Causes.					
Jails of Colombo: Welikada, Slave Island, Breakwater, and Mahara	1,267	2516·96	36·05	13·41	4·73	3·94	—	1·57	23·67	424·62	1440·41	70 24	135·75	2516·96
Hulftsdorp ...	100	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kalutara ...	101	792·07	30·79	9·90	29·70	9 90	—	—	49·50	138·61	277·22	89·10	9·90	792·07
Negombo ...	174	873·56	50·80	51·72	11·49	—	—	17·24	80·45	379·31	270·11	86 20	—	873·56
Kégalla ...	21	1047·61	·002	—	—	—	—	—	—	47 61	619·04	—	190·47	1047·61
Ratnapura ...	51	274·50	·006	58·82	—	19·60	—	—	78·43	215·68	19·60	19·60	—	274·50
Avisáwélla ...	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kurunégala ...	224	1040·17	26·02	35·71	17·85	4·46	—	13·39	71·42	517·85	183·03	31·25	71·42	1040·17
Puttalam ...	77	5194 80	125·71	155·84	—	—	—	—	155·84	1454·54	3142·85	64·93	51·94	5194·80
Chilaw ...	38	605·26	·002	—	—	—	—	—	—	263·15	26·31	78·94	—	605·26
Galle ...	203	1502·46	30·73	4·92	—	—	—	14·77	19·70	852·21	78·81	54 18	162·56	1502·46
Mátara ...	74	1472·97	40·81	67·56	—	—	—	—	67 56	1121·62	216·21	27·02	13·51	1472·97
Hambantota ...	100	460·0	12 40	—	—	—	—	—	—	120·00	130·00	50·00	40·00	460·00
Tangalla ...	41	585·36	·001	—	—	—	—	—	—	195·12	292·68	—	—	585·36
Balapitimódara ...	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ambalantota ...	13	1538 46	·003	—	—	—	—	—	—	230·76	538·46	72·90	230·76	1538·46
Jaffna ...	290	289·65	15·65	—	6·89	3·44	—	—	10·34	55·17	100·00	31·03	20·68	289·65
Mannár ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mullaittívu ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
V.-Vilápkulam ...	7	142 85	·003	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	142·85
Batticaloa ...	80	225·00	005	142·85	—	142·85	—	—	285·71	50·00	75·00	12·50	—	225·00
Trincomalee ...	34	411·76	·008	—	—	—	—	29·41	29 41	58·82	117·64	58·82	88·23	411·76
Kandy ...	414	570·04	15·77	4·83	2·41	4·83	2·41	—	14·49	287·43	26 57	26·57	48·30	570·04
Matalé ...	22	1181·81	·002	—	—	—	—	—	—	136·36	545·45	—	45·45	1181·81
Badulla ...	96	270·83	·005	—	10·41	—	—	—	10·41	31·25	125·00	—	10·41	270·83
Nuwara Eliya .	65	2092·30	45·69	30·73	—	—	—	—	30·73	507·69	756 92	15·38	46·15	2092·30
Anurádhapura ...	143	1160·83	18·46	20·97	—	—	—	6·99	27·97	321·67	748 25	—	13·98	1160·83
Total ...	3,666	1454·44	28·60	16·91	5·18	3·27	·27	4·09	29·73	374·52	678·39	47·19	74·74	1454·44

Table XIII.—Table showing the Working of "The Contagious Diseases Ordinance" during 1887, with regard to the Number of Cases coming under Examination.

	Colombo.	Kandy.	Galle.	Total.
How many women were on the list on January 1, 1887?	95	24	68	187
How many women were on the list on December 31, 1887?	99	38	68	205
How many deserted during the year? ...	35	7	32	74
Of these, how many were eventually brought back by the Police?	—	1	5	6
How many were released by order of the Police Magistrate?	7	—	—	7
How many of these have been brought back for examination?	—	—	—	—
How many new cases came on the list during the year?	46	21	27	94
Of these, how many were volunteers? ...	—	6	27	33

Table XIII. A.—Table showing the Number Treated during 1887 at the three Stations.

	Colombo.	Kandy.	Galle.	Total.
Gonorrhœa ...	357	68	46	471
Ulcer os uteri ...	35	3	1	38
Bubo (Gonorrhœal) ...	—	—	2	2
Syphilis, primary (soft) ...	55	35	173	263
Do. (hard) ...	75	2	18	95
Syphilis, secondary ...	149	2	1	152
Leucorrhœa ...	22	—	—	22
Condyloma ...	16	—	—	16
Gonorrhœal rheumatism .	—	—	—	—
Ulcer of vulva ...	68	—	—	68
Simple continued fever ...	—	3	—	3
Warts ...	—	1	—	1
Diarrhœa ...	—	1	—	1
Total ...	777	115	241	1,133

Table XIII. B.—Table showing the Number of Cases of Venereal Diseases treated in the Military Hospitals of Colombo, Kandy, and Galle, during 1887.

	Primary Syphilis.	Gonorrhœa.	Balanitis.	Total.
Colombo	144	130	7	281
Kandy	66	33	0	99
Galle	11	27	0	38
Total ...	221	190	7	418

Table XIV.—Statement showing the Medico-Legal duties performed by the Medical Officers of the Civil Medical Department during 1887, with the Amount of Fees, &c., received by them.

	Murders & Manslaughters.	Aggravated Assault.	Simple Assault.	Rape.	Concealment of Birth.	Analyses.	Other Medico-Legal Examinations.	Fees.	Travelling Expenses.	Total.
								Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Western Province.										
Colombo	32	93	—	4	2	74	33	3,150 0	250 34	3,400 34
Avisawélla	10	19	—	4	—	—	—	451 50	36 99	488 49
Panaduré	3	22	—	7	—	—	14	661 50	47 2	708 52
Kalutara	1	49	—	5	—	—	15	912 50	68 50	981 0
Ratnapura	4	7	—	1	—	—	12	136 50	55 37½	191 87½
Negombo	9	45	7	2	1	—	11	808 50	117 84	926 34
Kégalla ...	4	35	—	1	1	—	9	630 0	101 50	731 50
Rakwana	2	3	—	—	—	—	11	304 50	219 50	524 0
Balaṇgoḍa	—	1	—	—	—	—	6	136 50	10 50	147 0
North-Western Province.										
Kurunḡala	18	47	3	6	1	—	29	1,512 0	460 22½	1,972 22½
Puttalam	1	2	—	—	—	—	9	199 50	—	199 50
Chilaw	—	3	3	—	—	—	7	210 0	25 87½	235 87½
Máráwila	4	—	2	—	—	—	5	189 0	36 0	225 0
Southern Province.										
Galle	9	60	21	5	—	—	13	1,123 50	57 75	1,181 25
Mátara	8	46	—	10	—	—	21	987 0	228 62½	1,215 62½
Hambantoṭa	2	1	—	1	—	—	1	73 50	27 0	100 50
Taṇgalla	3	26	—	2	—	—	3	420 0	61 50	481 50
Balapiṭimódara ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	480 75
Weḷigama	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	31 50	—	31 50
Eastern Province.										
Batticaloa	2	5	—	—	—	—	8	252 0	47 25	299 25
Trincomalee	2	5	1	—	—	—	1	105 0	—	105 0
Kalmunai	1	5	1	—	—	—	5	178 50	66 62	245 12
Northern Province.										
Jaffna	1	—	—	1	—	—	8	189 0	37 87	226 87
Mannár	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	42 0	4 25	46 25
Kayts	—	4	—	1	—	—	6	157 50	9 0	166 50
Chávakachchéri ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Vavuṇiya-Viláṇkulam ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	21 0	2 25	23 25
Mullaittivu	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	42 0	10 12½	52 12½
Point Pedro	—	6	2	—	—	—	7	189 0	49 75	238 75
Valuveḍḍiturai ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	42 0	—	42 0
Central Province.										
Kandy	3	42	—	5	1	—	22	1,008 0	142 81	1,150 81
Gampola	—	11	—	—	—	—	5	220 50	3 75	224 25
Mátalé	3	6	—	—	1	—	13	407 50	111 25	518 75
Nuwara Eliya ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	105 0	5 0	110 0
Dambulla	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	42 0	—	42 0
Dikoya	1	2	—	—	—	—	9	231 0	51 50	282 50
Uḍa Puseḷláwa ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	136 50	99 0	235 50
Maskeliya	—	—	2	1	—	—	10	241 50	21 0	262 50
Nawalapiṭiya	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Teldeniya ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Keḷébokka	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	84 0	—	84 0
North-Central Province.										
Anurádhapura ...	—	—	2	—	—	—	5	126 0	20 43	146 43
Kalawewa	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	21 0	—	21 0
Mihintalé	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	63 0	86 25	149 25
Province of Uva.										
Badulla	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Haputalé	1	6	—	—	—	—	7	231 0	76 25	307 25
Lunugalla	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	84 0	91 0	175 0
Total ...	133	559	44	56	7	74	329	15,156 50	2,739 89½	19,[illegible]

Table XVI.—Statement of Expenditure of the several Government Civil Hospitals, Asylums, &c., for 1887.

Hospitals, &c	Total Number of Days the Patients stayed in Hospital.	Total Number of Patients treated.	Average residence in Days.	Average Daily Sick.	Diets.	Extra Articles of Diet. Stimulants.	Extra Articles of Diet. Other Articles.	Total.	Equipment.	Funeral Expenses.	Wages and Allowances of Nurses.	Wages of Dispensers, Attendants, &c.	Contingencies.	Total Expenditure.
					Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
I.—Asylums.														
Lunatic Asylum, Borella ...	28,094	190	147·86	155·14	8,244 94	5 25	1,402 31	9,652 50	2,834 11	5 64	—	2,969 96	756 85	16,219 6
New Lunatic Asylum, Jáwatta	108,373	435	249·13	279·36	27,263 35	441 45	3,720 46	31,425 26	3,217 71	29 19	—	8,867 49	1,642 93	45,182 58
Leper Asylum, Hendala ...	66,517	237	280·66	182·24	16,870 75	—	899 2	17,769 77	1,824 2	24 44	—	2,667 20	866 79	23,152 22
Total ...	—	—	—	—	52,379 4	446 70	6,021 79	58,847 53	7,875 84	59 27	—	14,504 65	3,266 57	84,553 86
II.—De Soysa Lying-in Hospital ...	1,674	145	11·54	4·58	921 22	19 35	66 1	1,006 58	355 65	—	—	1,757 64	202 64	3,322 51
III.—Civil Hospitals.														
Colombo	90,990	7,557	12·04	255·22	18,198 67	634 19	1,976 66	20,809 52	3,936 55	215 47	—	6,540 0	2,393 60	33,895 14
Ratnapura	9,884	388	25·47	27·07	2,644 96	11 84	33 59	2,690 39	394 43	107 80	—	852 0	403 13	4,447 75
Kégalla	12,172	432	28·17	33·34	3,399 36	5 88	22 50	3,427 74	195 16	68 50	—	852 0	220 21	4,763 61
Negombo	12,195	728	16·75	33·40	2,407 16	26 26	89 80	2,523 22	182 36	195 75	—	1,306 48	363 77	4,571 58
Kalutara	7,213	436	16·54	19·76	1,955 75	20 28	86 18	2,062 21	217 1	140 80	—	1,015 0	169 26	3,604 28
Pánaduré	3,547	303	11·70	9·71	1,047 38	10 48	20 28	1,078 14	144 87	91 0	—	849 25	100 96	2,264 22
Kurunégala	22,089	1,471	15·01	60·51	5,602 41	191 77	339 54	6,133 72	525 84	186 0	—	2,128 70	362 6	9,336 32
Puttalam	7,267	454	16·00	19·90	2,211 37	16 95	101 68	2,330 0	197 48	84 0	—	990 0	223 49	3,824 97
Máráwila	9,048	548	16·51	24·78	2,072 49	31 9	42 8	2,145 66	260 86	121 50	—	657 95	88 46	3,274 43
Chilaw	220	24	9·16	0·60	47 98	0 67	7 37	56 2	54 40	10 0	—	621 21	30 77	772 40
Galle	18,733	1,255	14·92	51·31	5,079 62	47 96	284 18	5,411 76	680 7	205 64	—	2,721 0	672 3	9,690 50
Mátara	10,665	471	22·64	29·21	2,825 99	18 8	55 57	2,899 64	367 74	64 0	—	1,062 0	185 81	4,579 19
Tagalla	2,613	199	13·13	7·15	1,240 76	4 33	65 15	1,310 24	63 27	20 0	—	425 64	116 18	1,935 33
Hambantota	3,091	269	11·45	8·46	1,029 22	11 20	93 80	1,134 22	126 20	58 50	—	710 56	216 77	2,246 25
Batticaloa	6,495	484	13·41	17·79	1,520 77	18 55	22 3	1,561 35	237 16	13 0	—	841 50	65 10	2,718 11
Trincomalee	5,124	228	22·47	14·03	1,479 39	18 70	92 92	1,591 1	156 16	40 0	—	784 11	239 45	2,810 73
Mullaittívu	15,506	457	33·93	42·48	3,609 28	0 72	1 35	3,611 35	72 49	8 49	—	681 84	319 97	4,694 14
Vavuniya-Viláṅkulam	7,302	349	20·92	20·00	1,530 89	0 67	30 0	1,561 56	89 26	27 20	—	525 0	223 43	2,426 45
Point Pedro	4,692	281	16·69	12·85	982 83	5 36	2 82	991 1	104 28	3 75	—	636 0	93 33	1,828 37
Kandy	45,270	2,818	16·06	124·02	10,037 94	28 45	860 72	10,927 11	1,261 8	371 90	—	4,718 50	751 66	18,030 25
Kaṭugastota	5,323	184	28·92	14·59	1,460 81	—	—	1,460 81	81 36	2 5	—	588 64	129 96	2,262 82
Gampola	23,768	1,068	22·25	65·11	5,755 77	22 98	148 72	5,927 47	600 86	100 53	—	1,260 0	401 81	8,290 67
Nuwara Eliya	7,073	485	14·58	19·37	2,784 70	40 91	108 6	2,933 67	126 81	59 50	—	1,548 0	175 5	4,843 3
Mátalé	14,756	848	17·40	40·42	4,361 23	276 80	190 79	4,828 82	525 17	75 26	—	1,200 0	357 27	6,986 52
Badulla	13,247	894	14·81	36·29	4,014 98	9 29	500 87	4,525 14	480 8	145 75	—	1,296 0	640 32	7,087 29
Total ...	—	—	—	—	87,301 71	1,453 41	5,176 66	93,931 78	11,080 95	2,416 39	—	34,811 38	8,943 85	151,184 35
IV.—Nursing Department ...	—	—	—	—	330 0	—	—	330 0	91 56	—	5,900 0	—	0 75	6,322 31
V.—Lock Hospital, Kandy ...	2,697	115	23·45	7·38	537 15	—	—	537 15	45 15	—	—	199 75	53 45	835 50
VI.—Lock Hospital, Colombo ...	3,371	777	4·33	9·23	2,171 63	1 0	26 24	2,198 87	—	—	—	269 6	42 35	2,510 28
VII.—Lock Hospital, Galle ...	3,168	241	13·14	8·67	665 46	—	0 55	666 1	93 65	—	—	192 0	37 77	989 43
VIII.—House of Observation, Galle ...	1,877	33	26·57	2·40	200 90	2 68	9 28	212 86	32 22	—	—	419 0	25 29	689 37
IX.—Immigrant Hospital, Dambulla ...	5,311	381	13·93	14·55	1,828 53	10 36	34 56	1,873 45	198 67	12 0	—	1,996 50	215 38	4,296 0
X.—Infectious Diseases Hospital, Colombo	4,202	229	11·51	11·51	2,638 53	22 57	161 73	2,822 83	221 63	16 53	—	1,765 71	504 95	5,331 65
Grand Total ...	—	—	—	—	148,974 17	1,956 7	11,496 82	162,427 6	19,995 32	2,504 19	5,900 0	52,915 69	13,293 0	260,035 29

Table XVII.—Cost of Establishment, 1887.

	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Salaries.			
Fixed	84,237 53		
Provisional	115,083 35		
		199,320 88	
Allowances.			
Allowance to Principal and Lecturers of the Medical College and Demonstrator of Anatomy	12,250 0		
Subscription to the Colonial Medical Library	500 0		
For the purchase of appliances to illustrate lectures	476 82		
Pay of head servant, Medical College ...	180 0		
Pay of coolies for the dead-house ...	300 0		
Personal allowances to Principal Civil Medical Officer and Inspector-General of Hospitals and Colonial Surgeon Dr. Dias, in lieu of fees for Bills of Health, from January to December, 1887 ...	4,200 0		
		17,906 82	
Contingencies.			
Remuneration to private Medical Practitioners, Vaccinators, &c. ...	7,959 57		
For stitching papers, binding books, repair of office furniture, and other petty expenses	961 37		
Pay of peon and purchase of articles for the Medical College	455 34		
Boatmen for Health Officer, Colombo ...	998 5		
Animal Vaccinator	1,698 36		
		12,072 69	
Hospitals and Sanitation.			
Hospitals, &c.	267,664 48		
Rent.			
Rent of house occupied by—			
Dispenser, Civil Medical Stores ..	240 0		
Superintendent of Medical Duties, Jaffna	150 0		
Senior Medical Officer, Badulla ...	360 0		
Rent of house occupied as—			
Government Dispensary, Balapitimódara	60 0		
Do. Kalpitiya ...	60 0		
Do. Kayts ...	30 0		
Do. Kalmunai ...	120 0		
Do. Chávakachchéri	42 0		
Do. Moratuwa ...	144 0		
Allowance in lieu of house rent to Medical Officer, Welikada Jail	600 0		
Allowance in lieu of house rent to Medical Superintendent, General Hospital, Colombo	840 0		
Rent of Civil Medical Stores ...	1,050 0		
Rent of Colonial Surgeon's Office, Kandy	480 0		
Rent of Temple House	1,100 0		
		5,276 0	
Transport.			
Horse allowance to Principal Civil Medical Officer, &c.	420 0		
Horse allowance to Inspector of Vaccination	420 0		
Batta to Assistant Colonial Surgeons and travelling expenses to Medical Officers...	8,982 45		
Travelling expenses to Medical Officers in the Provinces	9,089 86		
		18,912 31	
General.			
Purchase of medicines and instruments in England	57,248 74		
Articles for the Civil Medical Stores ...	1,691 61		
Transport of medicines	293 98		
Cost of medicines in Ceylon ...	106 30		
Cost of stationery	2,108 74		
Purchase of ambulance, and dhooly ...	412 0		
		61,861 37	
Grand Total ...	—	—	583,014 55

Table XV.—Return of the Medical Officers borne on the strength of the Civil Medical Department on December 31, 1887.

Name.	Station.	Duties.	Date of Appointment.	Annual Salary.		Length of Service.	
				Rs.	c.	Y.	M.
Colonial Surgeons.							
J. T. Morgan, M.B.C.M.	Kandy ...	Inspection of Civil and Jail Hospitals and Superintendent of Vaccination for the Central and North-Central Provinces	January, 1883	8,000	0	26	11
W. Dias, M.D.	Galle ...	Do. do. Southern Province	June, 1885	8,000	0	25	2
F. Keyt, M.D.	Jaffna ...	Do. do. Northern Province	January, 1885	6,000	0	24	7
J. L. Vanderstraaten, M.D.	Colombo ...	Do. do. Western and North-Western Provinces	June, 1885	6,000	0	24	9
Medical Superintendent, Lunatic Asylum.							
J. B. Spence, M.B.C.M.	Colombo ...	Medical Superintendent, Lunatic Asylum	April 7, 1887	6,000	0	0	9
Medical Superintendent, General Hospital.							
J. D. Macdonald, M.D.	Colombo ...	Medical Superintendent of the General Hospital and Civil Medical Stores	June, 1886	5,000	0	4	3
Assistant Colonial Surgeons.							
J. Attygalle, M.D., M.R.C.S. ENG. ...	Colombo ...	In Medical charge of Convict Establishment, and Public Analyst ...	February, 1887	4,000	0	21	6
W. G. Rockwood, M.D., L.R.C.P. LOND. M.R.C.S. ENG.	Do. ...	Surgeon, General Hospital	August, 1885	4,000	0	21	4
F. A. Vandersmagt, M.D.C.M. ...	—	On leave to Europe	—	4,000	0	20	0
E. Gratiaen, L.F.P. & S.G.	Kandy ...	In charge of Government Civil Hospital	February, 1887	4,000	0	19	2
J. Carbery, M.R.C.M.	Mátalé ...	In charge of Civil and Jail Hospitals and other Medical duties of the station	April, 1886	4,000	0	20	4
W. E. Misso, L.R.C.P. & S.	Batticaloa ...	In charge of Civil and Jail Hospitals, Batticaloa, Senior Medical Officer, and Superintendent of Vaccination, Eastern Province	March, 1886	4,000	0	19	0
W. G. Keith, M.B.C.M.	Badulla ...	In charge of Civil and Jail Hospitals, Badulla, Senior Medical Officer, and Superintendent of Vaccination, Province of Uva	September, 1887	4,000	0	17	1
T. F. Garvin, M.B.C.M.	Colombo ...	Port Surgeon	August, 1886	4,000	0	12	3
P. F. Solomons, M.R.C.S.	Puttalam ...	In charge of Civil and Jail Hospitals and other Medical duties of the station	July, 1887	3,500	0	10	4
G. P. Schokman, M.B.C.M.	Galle ...	In charge of Government Civil Hospital	December, 1886	3,500	0	9	11
H. A. Moraes, L.R.C.P. & S.	Kurunégala ...	In charge of Civil and Jail Hospitals and other Medical duties of the station	October, 1883	3,500	0	9	10
E. De Livera, M.B.C.M.	Nuwara Eliya ...	Do. do. do.	July, 1885	3,500	0	9	6
W. H. Swan, M.B.C.M.	Kandy ...	In charge of Jail Hospital and Judicial Medical Officer	September, 1887	3,500	0	8	11
S. Fernando, M.B.C.M.	Colombo ...	Office Assistant to the Principal Civil Medical Officer and Inspector-General of Hospitals	June, 1886	3,500	0	8	7
A. H. Freta, L.R.C.P. & S.	Negombo ...	In charge of Civil and Jail Hospitals and other Medical duties of the station	July, 1887	3,000	0	7	11
F. Oorloff, M.B.C.M.	Trincomalee ...	Do. do. do.	November, 1884	3,000	0	6	2
J. H. Ebell, L.R.C.P. & S.	Mátara ...	Do. do. do.	December, 1885	3,000	0	5	1
W. E. Rudd, M.R.C.S.	Jaffna ..	In charge of Jail Hospital	September, 1887	3,000	0	3	8
N. Suppayah, L.R.C.P.	Ratnapura ...	In charge of Civil and Jail Hospitals and other Medical duties of the station	October, 1885	3,000	0	11	8
F. G. Spittel, L.R.C.P. & S. ...	Gampola ...	In charge of Civil Hospitals and other Medical duties of the station ...	June, 1885	3,000	0	13	7
E. Waitealingam	—	On leave	—	3,000	0	37	0
H. A. Keegel, L.R.C.P., L.F.P. & S. ...	Colombo ...	In charge of Outdoor Dispensary, Lock Hospital, and Judicial Medical Officer	February, 1887	2,250	0	12	7
A. H. Toussaint	Galle ...	Port Surgeon; in charge of Infectious Diseases Hospital and Outdoor Dispensary	August, 1879	2,500	0	25	11

Name.	Station.	Duties.	Date of Appointment.	Annual Salary.	Length of Service.
				Rs. c.	Y. M.
W. H. Meir	Colombo ...	Medical Superintendent, Leper Asylum	October, 1879	2,250 0	15 4
Deputy Assistant Colonial Surgeons.					
M. Nityatamby, M.R.C.S.	Colombo ..	In charge of Police and Infectious Diseases Hospital	June, 1886	1,500 0	7 8
H. G. Thomas, L.R.C.P. & S. ...	Hambantota ...	In charge of Civil and Jail Hospitals and other Medical duties of the station	October, 1887	1,500 0	3 3
E. Modder, L.F.P. & S.G.	Kégalla ...	Do. do. do. ...	August, 1887	1,500 0	12 7
O. Johnson, L.R.C.P., L.F.P. & S. ...	Galle ...	In charge of Jail and Lock Hospital and House of Observation, and Judicial Medical Officer	October, 1887	1,500 0	2 2
Sub-Assistant Colonial Surgeons.					
R. C. Aldons, L.C.M.C.	Máráwila ...	In charge of Civil Hospital and other Medical duties of the station .	July, 1885	1,300 0	14 7
S. Waitialingam, L.C.M.C.	Dambulla ...	In charge of Immigrant Hospital	July, 1887	1,300 0	14 7
S. Hallock, L.R.C.P., L.F.P. & S. ...	Chilaw ...	In charge of Civil and Jail Hospitals and other Medical duties of the station	August, 1885	1,200 0	11 8
W. Maas, L.C.M.C.	Mahara ...	In charge of Jail and Outdoor Dispensary	June, 1886	1,300 0	13 7
S. B. Perera, L.C.M.C.	Weligama ...	In charge of Outdoor Dispensary	August, 1885	1,200 0	10 8
W. E. Leembruggen, L.C.M.C. ...	Pánaduré ...	In charge of Civil Hospital and other Medical duties of the station	February, 1887	1,100 0	9 9
V. Sarawanamuttu, L.C.M.C. ...	Kalmunai ..	In charge of Outdoor Dispensary	February, 1887	1,200 0	10 7
P. S. Wijeyasinghe, L.C.M.C. ...	Taggalla ...	In charge of Civil and Jail Hospitals and other Medical duties of the station	July, 1885	1,100 0	9 9
M. Kylasserpulle, L.C.M.C.	Kurunégala ...	House Surgeon, Government Civil Hospital	November, 1887	1,100 0	7 3
J. Heyzer, L.C.M.C.	Kandy ..	In charge of Outdoor Dispensary	July, 1887	1,000 0	6 2
J. D. Rosairo L.C.M.C.	Kandy ...	House Surgeon, Government Civil Hospital ...	June, 1886	1,000 0	6 0
V. T. LaBrooy, L.C.M.C.	Colombo ...	Assistant Medical Officer, Lunatic Asylum	October, 1887	1,000 0	6 7
R. O. Sinnecuty, L.C.M.C.	V.-Vilápkulam	In charge of Civil and Jail Hospitals and other Medical duties of the station	May, 1885	1,000 0	5 6
V. Mutukkumara, L.C.M.C.	Mullaittívu ...	Do. do. do. ..	October, 1887	1,000 0	5 6
A. Chinnayah, L.C.M.C.	Batticaloa ...	House Surgeon, Civil Hospital	July, 1886	1,000 0	5 4
O. Bartholomeusz, L.C.M.C.	Balapitimodara ...	In charge of Outdoor Dispensary and Jail and other Medical duties ...	October, 1887	1,000 0	6 0
W. Wijeyasekara, L.C.M.C.	Galle	House Surgeon, Civil Hospital	July, 1885	900 0	2 5
D. P. Nicholas, L.C.M.C.	Point Pedro ...	In charge of Civil Hospital and other Medical duties of the station ...	October, 1887	900 0	2 4
S. L. Anthoniss, L.R.C.P. & S., L.F.P. & S. ...	Mannár ...	In charge of Immigrant and Jail Hospitals and other Medical duties of the station	July, 1887	900 0	1 9
H. Huybertsz, L.R.C.P. & S. ...	Kalutara ...	In charge of Civil and Jail Hospitals and other Medical duties of the station	February, 1887	900 0	0 11
E. Roberts, L.C.M.C.	Moratuwa ...	In charge of Outdoor Dispensary	July, 1887	900 0	0 6
A. Neil, L.C.M.C.	Colombo ...	House Surgeon, General Hospital	October 15, 1887	900 0	0 3
Medical Practitioners.					
M. H. Hitchcock	Kayts ...	Health Officer	December, 1881	240 0	21 8
C. McIntyre	Mihintalé ...	In charge of Immigrant Hospital and other Medical duties of station ...	June, 1885	900 0	18 0
E. A. Anderson	Colombo ...	Health Officer	July, 1871	1,000 0	16 6
A. Appavupillai Mudaliyár... ...	Anurádhapura ...	In charge of Immigrant and Jail Hospitals and other Medical duties ...	July, 1871	1,200 0	16 5
E. Lovell	Kankésanturai ...	Health Officer	November, 1871	240 0	16 2
[illegible] Mendis	Colombo ...	Attached to Slave Island and Breakwater Jails	October, 1878	720 0	13 3
[illegible] Steward	Chavakachchéri ...	Outdoor Dispensary	August, 1887	1,000 0	17 11
[illegible]	Ratnapura ...	Itinerating on fever duty	September, 1887	600 0	0 4
[illegible]	Vankalai ...	In charge of Immigrant Hospital	May, 1887	1,000 0	11 4
S. C. Adrianus	Puliyadi-irakkam ...	Do. do.	January, 1878	600 0	10 0

E. H. Kanniader ...	Batticaloa ...	Health Officer ...	May,	1882	120 0	5	10
L. S. Strong ...	Point-Pedro ...	Do.	April,	1885	240 0	2	9
C. Moonsiyah ...	Valluvedditurai ...	Do.	February,	1886	240 0	1	11
N. Malava Rayer ...	Kalpitiya ...	In charge of Outdoor Dispensary	May,	1887	600 0	0	8
ESTATES BRANCH.							
Superintending Medical Officers.							
H. Thornhill, M.B. ...	Kandy ...	Superintending Medical Officer	January,	1883	5,000 0	5	0
C. T. Griffin, M.R.C.S. ...	Dikoya ...	Do.	January,	1883	5,000 0	5	0
J. Craib, M.D. ...	Nuwara Eliya ...	Do.	January,	1886	5,000 0	2	0
District Medical Officers.							
A. B. Santiago, L.C.M.C. ...	Haputalé ...	In charge of District Hospital and other Medical duties	January,	1883	1,500 0	11	8
M. Candyah, L.C.M.C. ...	Kelebokka ...	Do. do.	October,	1886	2,000 0	11	8
H. C. Senevirattna, L.M.S. MADRAS ...	Dikoya ...	Do. do.	August,	1884	1,500 0	5	0
C. Heynsberg, L.C.M.C. ...	Udu Pussellâwa ...	On leave to Europe	March,	1880	2,000 0	8	6
G. J. Wouterse, M.R.C.S. ...	Do.	(Acting) In charge of District Hospital and other Medical duties	July,	1887	1,000 0	3	9
N. S. Chandrasagram, L.C.M.C. ...	Lunugala ...	Do. do.	March,	1883	1,500 0	10	8
G. Van Royen, L.R.C.P. & S. ...	Lindula ...	Do. do.	December,	1883	1,500 0	4	1
A. E. Weinman, L.C.M.C. ...	Badulla ...	Estates Branch duties	September,	1886	1,000 0	1	7
C. P. Fonseka, L.C.M.C. ...	Dimbula ...	In charge of District Hospital and other Medical duties	December,	1883	2,000 0	6	6
Medical Assistants.							
E. De Kretser, L.C.M.C. ...	Rakwána ...	In charge of District Dispensary and other Medical duties	March,	1886	1,500 0	7	3
J. W. De Hoedt, L.C.M.C. ...	Maskeliya ...	Do. do.	January,	1883	1,500 0	5	7
O. S. Meerwald, L.C.M.C. ...	Matuṛaṭa ...	Do. do.	January,	1883	1,500 0	5	5
S. F. G. Danforth, L.C.M.C. ...	Teldeniya ...	Do. do.	October,	1886	1,500 0	5	6
W. Jayesinghe, L.C.M.C ...	Balaṇgoḍa ...	Do. do.	October,	1887	1,500 0	5	0
M. Sinnatamby, L.C.M.C. ...	Ramboḍa ...	Do. do.	November,	1885	1,500 0	5	0
J. M. Ratnayake, L.C.M.C. ...	Deltota ...	Do. do.	August,	1885	1,500 0	5	4
F. P. Abeyesekere ...	Náwalapitiya ...	Do. do.	December,	1885	1,500 0	5	0
C. F. Ephramms, L.C.M.C. ...	Avisáwélla ...	Do. do.	February,	1887	1,000 0	9	9
J. B. Tissera ...	Monarágala ...	Do. do.	September,	1886	1,000 0	3	5
C. Dias ...	Karawaṇella ...	Do. do.	April,	1886	720 0	1	8
G. A. Dias ...	Morawak Kóralé ...	Do. do.	August,	1886	720 0	1	5
D. Abraham ...	Elkaḍuwa ...	Do. do.	September,	1886	1,000 0	1	4
E. C. Perera ...	Matalé ...	Do. do.	October,	1887	720 0	5	0
J. E. Disanayaka ...	Kandy ...	Do. do.	October,	1887	720 0	1	5
S. Ponnampalam ...	Náwalapitiya ...	Visiting Medical Assistant	September,	1887	600 0	0	4
P. J. Peiris ...	Lindula ...	Do.	March,	1887	500 0	0	10
M. A. Dharmaratna ...	Badulla ...	Do.	November,	1886	1,000 0	1	2
F. Luterse ...	Haputalé ...	Do.	December,	1886	600 0	1	1
A. Perera ...	Dikoya ...	Do.	January,	1886	720 0	2	0

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.

REPORT OF THE GOVERNMENT PRINTER FOR THE YEAR 1887.

I.—EXPENDITURE.

INCLUDING sums paid from "Advances" (subsequently recovered from Departments or individuals for work undertaken for payment, and repaid to the Treasurer, and of which Rs. 4,863·33 represent the cost of working the Binding Branch) the expenditure brought to account in 1887 was Rs. 116,888·77, against Rs. 121,411·61 in 1886 :—

1886. Rs. c.		Heads of Service.		1887. Rs. c.
14,770 56	...	Fixed Salaries ...	...	16,914 09
5,074 71	...	Provisional Salaries	...	5,784 29
35,358 05	...	Office Contingencies	...	31,557 66
60,500 00	...	Miscellaneous Services	...	52,239 81
5,708 29	...	Advances ...	...	10,392 92
121,411 61				116,888 77

The following table gives under a Departmental classification the expenditure (excluding that of the Binding Branch, which is separately shown later on) with which each year should strictly be debited :—

1886.				1887.		
Bookwork.	Jobwork.	Total.		Bookwork.	Jobwork.	Total.
Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.		Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
6,875 48	7,276 27	14,151 75	... Superintendence	6,794 45	7,108 84	13,903 29
3,522 98	693 85	4,216 83	... Proof Reading and Revision ...	2,741 76	1,840 30	4,582 06
14,091 97	4,928 17	19,020 14	... Composition	13,875 28	3,981 04	17,856 32
2,232 75	5,766 70	7,999 45	... Press- and Machine-work ...	2,098 04	6,195 47	8,293 51
580 93	4,531 98	5,112 91	... Warehouse-work	433 78	4,842 45	5,276 23
283 05	960 46	1,243 51	... Stereotyping	369 33	631 00	1,000 33
—	1,864 53	1,864 53	... Ruling	—	1,934 63	1,934 63
—	—	—	... Binding	108 65	—	108 65
1,031 32	1,155 50	2,186 82	... Clerical Staff	1,258 23	1,318 41	2,576 64
630 25	633 77	1,264 02	... Casual Expenses	503 29	610 22	1,113 51
572 96	603 69	1,176 65	... Leave	335 53	372 27	707 80
29,821 69	28,414 92	58,236 61	... Total, Printing Charges ...	28,518 34	28,834 63	57,352 97
5,729 14	46,229 35	51,958 49	... Paper	6,006 45	41,670 26	47,676 71
35,550 83	74,644 27	110,195 10	... Total, Working Expenses ...	34,524 79	70,504 89	105,029 68
		920 67	... Standing Plant and Machinery ...		...	2,387 45
		5,921 58	... Type		...	3,165 22
		953 33	... Brass Rule, Leads, and Furniture		...	453 13
	Rs.	117,990 68			Rs.	111,035 48

A reduction of Rs. 883·64 in the Printing Charges, notwithstanding the increase of work which has to be reported in both the Bookwork and Jobbing Branches, is, I submit, satisfactory.

The decrease of Rs. 4,281·78 in value of "Paper" used in 1887 is due to the fact that in the Jobbing Branch printing for stock was discouraged; the stocks of forms with which the year opened being considerably reduced before its close.

Deducting the amount for which credit is taken later on under the head of "Cash Recoveries" (Rs. 22,604·70), the net cost of the Establishment in 1887 was Rs. 88,430·78.

II.—The Bookwork Department.

Of Bookwork 10,586 pages were printed at a cost of Rs. 34,524·79, being an increase of 567 pages, though a decrease of Rs. 1,164·05 in cost, compared with 1886. Details will be found in Table I., of which the following is a summary :—

Cost.		Pages printed in 1886.		Pages printed in 1887.		Cost.	
Printing Charges ...	Rs. 29,821·69*	9	Royal	8		Printing Charges ...	Rs. 28,518·34†
Paper	„ 5,729·14	6,444	Foolscap folio	7,039		Paper	„ 6,006·45
		150	Demy 4to	120			
	Rs. 35,550·83	938	Royal 8vo	1,237			Rs. 34,524·79
		1,534	Demy 8vo	1,168			
		—	Royal 12mo	124			
* Composition, Rs. 14,091·97		524	Crown 8vo	418		† Composition, Rs. 13,875·28	
		420	Foolscap 8vo	472			
		10,019		10,586			

In addition to the regular annual publications, the following were completed and published during the year :—

Observations on Green Scale Bug by Mr. E. Green (illustrated with drawings lithographed in colours by the Surveyor-General's Department).
Museum Collection Lists of Snakes, Frogs, and Birds.
A second edition of the Siphalese Eighth Standard Reader.
Dharmapradípiká : an advanced Siphalese Reading Book.
A fourth edition of the Swabashá Ratnadámaya, a Siphalese Reading Book.
A Siphalese Seventh Standard Reader.
A second edition of the Siphalese Second Reading Book.
A Physical Geography in Siphalese (illustrated with wood engravings).
A second edition of Dixon's English Botany Primer.
A second edition of Green's Agricultural Primer in Tamil.
Journals of the Royal Asiatic Society (Ceylon Branch) : Vols. I. (No. 4) 1848 (a reprint), IX. (No. 32) 1886, X. (No. 34) 1887, and the Proceedings of 1886.
A Guide to Colombo, by Mr. G. J. A. Skeen.

and the following were in hand at the close of the year :—

Returns of Architectural and Archæological Remains and Antiquities, brought up to end of 1886.
Itinerary of Minor Roads, second edition.
The Siphalese Tíka (Commentary) on the Mahâwansa.
Mudaliyár L. C. Wijesinha's English Translation of Chapters XXXIX. to C. of the Mahâwansa.
A second (enlarged) edition of Senanáyaka's Siphalese Hymnal.
A Monograph on the Mannár District, by Mr. W. J. S. Boake, C.C.S.

III.—Jobbing Department.

1886.			1887.
12,275,975	...	Aggregate number of Printed Forms issued ...	15,938,378
132,959	...	Railway Tickets printed	164,634
117,368	...	Stamps overprinted	286,587
Rs. c.			Rs. c.
28,414 92	...	Printing charges	28,834 63
34,971 11	...	Value of paper in Forms issued	44,760 99
63,386 3	...	...	73,595 62

The aggregate number of forms issued during the year was the highest which has ever been reached,—nearly 16 millions, against (in round numbers) 13, 12, 15½, and 12¼ millions in the years 1883 to 1886 respectively.

In Table II. the quantities supplied to each Department, and their values calculated on a fixed price list, are shown. As the grand total of Rs. 87,805·14 shows an excess of Rs. 14,209·52 over the actual cost given above, a deduction of 16·18 per cent. should be made in each case to arrive at the actual cost.

It may be noted that the Railway Department—the whole of whose printing requirements (except in respect of passenger tickets, the bulk of which are still obtained from England) are now met from this office—was supplied with nearly four millions of forms (over two and a quarter being labels), the Postal-Telegraph with nearly two millions, and the Medical with over a million ; though as regards value, the Postal-Telegraph heads the list with Rs. 11,516, the Railway being second with Rs. 9,286, the Western Province Agency, the Medical, and Public Works Departments following, at some distance, with values of between Rs. 4,000 and Rs. 5,000.

Of the increase of nearly 3½ millions in number and Rs. 10,209 in actual cost, an increase of over a million in number and Rs. 3,721 in cost has to be debited to the Railway; of nearly a million in number and Rs. 3,743 in cost to the several Courts (which, as pointed out in my report for 1886, had during that year been working on the balances of the two previous years' supplies) ; of half a million in number and Rs. 858 in cost to the Customs; of 365,000 in number and Rs. 2,637 in cost to the Registration Department ; of a quarter of a million in number and Rs. 285 in cost to the Postal-Telegraph Department ; of 200,000 in number and Rs. 1,276 in cost to the Fiscals; and of 150,000 in number and Rs. 1,325 in cost to the Prisons Department.* The several Government Agents were supplied with 300,000 more forms than in 1886 at a reduced cost of Rs. 177 ; but the only Department the cost of whose forms shows any material decrease on the previous year is the Medical, which, though supplied with over 67,000 more in number than in 1886, has to be debited with Rs. 2,154 less.

A considerable increase in the cost of forms—and consequently in the Colony's annual bill for Printing—would undoubtedly have taken place in recent years from the gradual advance in the cost of paper which has been the result of a continually falling exchange, but for the action which has been taken in this office in revising the qualities of paper used, and in taking every opportunity

* In stating these increases in cost the necessary deductions have been made from the nominal values given in Table II.

of reducing the sizes of forms. While improvements in the quality of several papers has taken place, with of course an advance in price, the substitution of cheaper qualities for certain classes of forms which were formerly printed on better papers than there was occasion for, has kept down the cost. This is borne out by the following figures :—

	Forms supplied.	All Charges. Rs. c.	Average Cost per 1,000. Rs. c.	Cost of Paper only. Rs. c.	Average per 1,000 for Paper. Rs. c.
1883	12,971,204	61,527 60	4 74	40,166 03	3 19
1884	11,989,987	58,484 50	4 90	34,687 81	2 90
1885	15,439,298	68,021 13	4 40	41,090 54	2 66
1886	12,275,975	63,386 03	5 16	34,971 11	2 85
1887	15,938,375	73,595 62	4 61	44,760 99	2 80

The following is the record of work done in line-ruling, perforating, and numbering or paging :—

1886.		1887.
	Line-ruling.	
2,492,279	Number of forms ruled	2,216,956
4,359,767	Number of rulings involved	4,127,691
Rs. 1,864·53	Cost	Rs. 1,934·63
42·76 cents.	Average cost per 1,000 rulings	46·86 cents.
	Perforating.	
1,719,942	Number of sheets perforated	1,221,909
	Numbering or Paging.	
956,354	Number of impressions	347,857

During the latter half of the year a much-needed reform in the system under which printed forms are issued to Departments was introduced. For years past the desirability, with a view to secure economy, of requiring Departments to pay for their forms as since 1882 they have done for their stationery, has been advocated by me; and in November, 1886, the Printing Committee (consisting latterly of the Second Assistant Colonial Secretary, the Assistant Auditor-General, and myself, to whom indents were referred, but who were practically able to exercise but little check) had been called upon by Government to "report on the causes which led to the issue of so largely increased a number of printed forms during 1885, and to suggest how any further development of the issue can be arrested and its proportions be reduced."

For the purposes of this inquiry a table was framed showing the number of forms supplied to each Department, and their cost, during the years 1883–6. On this table being placed before the late Lieutenant-Governor, Sir Cecil C. Smith, to whom the initiation of the subsequent reform is due, it was suggested that Departments might in future be allowed a certain limit of quantity; this being shown to be impracticable, the alternative of allotting nominal values, to the extent of which they should be allowed to draw for authorised forms, was decided upon. Accordingly allowances were fixed, based generally on the cost of forms supplied during the preceding four years, and stringent instructions were communicated to Departments that no indent would be passed, the effect of which would be to cause the annual sum allotted to any Department to be exceeded, except upon the strongest grounds of public necessity. Under this simple expedient, which fairly secures the advantages for which I had contended in advocating a system of payment, and is free from the disadvantages which would necessarily be attendant on one under which actual cash transactions take place, each Department is now, up to the limit of its allowance, allowed full liberty of action.

The amended regulations, under which indents are made direct on the Government Printer, first came into effect in regard to Judicial Departments, whose indents for 1888's supplies were due on December 1, and have been extended to others as their annual indents became due. While in some degree throwing additional clerical work on this establishment, I am glad to be able to report that the system is working with marked advantage over the old one.

That in the past there has been extravagance, printed forms having been obtained gratis and consequently looked upon as of little or no value, is a matter of notoriety. A District Judge, in reply to a circular of the Printing Committee, very accurately summed up the case in the following words :—

> There is great room for improvement in the proper care and economical use of forms after their receipt in all Government Offices. My own observation leads me to the belief that very few clerks think it any part of their duty to practice economy or even to take ordinary care in regard to printed forms. They are usually allowed to be thrown about, and to become disarranged, crumpled, and dusty, and are generally treated as if of less, rather than of more value than plain paper.....Printed forms are to a large extent used for purposes for which they are not intended. The practice of using them as covers for letters is a very common one. I can mention several Departments from which I habitually receive letters enclosed in printed forms in current use, and printed on the best foolscap. It would be cheaper to use the plain paper, but that does not occur to the ordinary clerk. .....No rules, however, will effect proper reforms unless the Head of each Department himself take an interest in the use of forms. By using discretion in preparing the indent and by insisting on the quantity in hand being properly ascertained and any excessive use being accounted for, the Head of a Department can almost ensure economy.

As an instance that the new system is likely to be successful in securing economy, I may mention that having had some difficulty this year in obtaining punctually the annual indents from the deputies of one of the Fiscals, I was informed "that the delay is due to new arrangements consequent on having to pay [*sic*], which has led to my returning all the indents for reduction."

IV.—STEREOTYPING.

The following figures show the work done in the Stereotype Foundry, and its cost, in comparison with that of the preceding year :—

1886. No. of Plates.	Weight. lb.	Cost. Rs. c.		1887. No. of Plates.	Weight. lb.	Cost. Rs. c.
870	1,666	283 5	Bookwork	1,092	1,870	369 32
2,684	5,368	960 46	Jobwork	1,217	3,195	631 0
3,554	7,034	1,243 51*		2,309	5,065	1,000 32†

* Labour Rs. 644·01, Materials Rs. 594·50.

† Labour Rs. 607·80, Materials Rs. 392·52.

While the practice of stereotyping introduced in 1876, but not largely availed of till 1883, has proved to be of great service, the introduction of electrotyping would undoubtedly prove a far greater advantage. In my report for 1883 I wrote :—

Undoubtedly it would pay to introduce electrotyping without delay. While an ordinary stereo will be worn out, according to the hardness of the metal employed, after say from 50,000 to 100,000 copies have been printed off, millions of impressions may be taken from an electro with its copper surface, and it consequently does not require frequent renewal. But as other departments of the office are more urgently in need of a considerable outlay, I do not see my way to recommend the introduction of electrotyping at present.

And in that for 1884 :—

The stereotype foundry has now become an important factor.....in the working of the establishment; in fact, without the aid which it affords it would be impossible, with the prevailing scarcity of materials, to do the work demanded.....The introduction of electrotyping must take place at no distant date.

The more pressing demands of other branches of work on available funds have alone been the cause of no steps having hitherto been taken in regard to electrotyping; but I trust that 1889 will see an advance made in this direction.

V.—Bookbinding.

The anticipation expressed in my report for 1886 that the working of this Branch, started in November, 1885, would show better results in 1887 than in 1886, has been realised.

The value of work executed, calculated on rates founded on those paid under the contract which existed in 1885, was almost double that of 1886, being Rs. 7,144·25 against Rs. 3,612·49, while the profit realised was Rs. 2,430·19 against Rs. 160·88.

The work of the current year should show an increase again on 1887, as it was not till the 25th October that instructions were issued to Departments rendering it compulsory upon them, under penalty of surcharge, to have their binding (that of "office records" excluded) executed here.

The following statement summarises the operations of the Binding Branch during the year, the figures for the previous thirteen months covered by last report being given for comparison :—

1885-6. Rs.	c.	Expended.	1887. Rs.	c.	1885-6.	Outturn of Work.	1887.
2,104	91	In labour	2,175	44	1,120	Books full bound in leather	2,938
1,216	70	In materials	2,418	62	2,531	Books half do.	4,375
130	0	Hire of Plant	120	0	451	Books bound in stiff covers	1,148
					20,834	Stitched in paper covers	27,745
3,451	61		4,714	6	24,936		36,206

1885-6.			1887.
Rs. 3,612	49	Recoveries	Rs. 7,144 25
160	88	Profit	2,430 19

VI.—Plant and Material.

The expenditure on Plant and Material was as follows :—

	Rs.	c.
Machinery and Standing Plant	2,387	45
Type	3,165	22
Brass Rule, Leads, and Furniture	529	67
Casual Expenses (repairs, &c.)	278	66
Total	6,361	0

The first item included the purchase of a six-wheel treadle paging machine, to print consecutive, alternate, duplicate, and quadruplicate, Rs. 601·19; two 36-inch ruling machines with automatic delivery, Rs. 656·42; chases, Rs. 254·36; covering racks with iron plates for imposing surfaces, Rs. 224·50; compositors' frames, Rs. 163·68; machine roller lifts, Rs. 93·26; a small addition to the supply of Lavater's silent locking-up apparatus, Rs. 55·81; fitting up a circular saw, Rs. 25·87.

The principal additions to type consisted in the strengthening of the English founts by 2,170 lb. of long primer (a large-faced letter, which has been made the standard type for ordinary bookwork in supersession of small pica) and 643 lb. of bourgeois, and of the Sinhalese founts by 770 lb. of small pica. A liberal expenditure on English type will be necessary for some years to come, for though the Store Return shows a nominal equipment of 40,000 lb. of Bookwork type (a large percentage of which should be deducted for depreciation), three-fourths are much worn and the greater part locked up in "standing matter" (Blue Book, Estimates, Civil List, &c.), and of the 10,000 lb. of type which have been added during the last four years, a large proportion is often similarly blocked. A new fount of 1,000 lb. of Tamil type is an urgent requirement.

In the third item are included Rs. 191·84, wages of lead casters, who, with metal costing Rs. 194·61—or at an expenditure of Rs. 386·45—turned out 1,193 lb. of leads and 1,341 lb. of metal furniture, being at the rate of 15¼ cents per lb., less than half of what imported material would have cost.

In December an indent was submitted for one of Harrild's double-royal "Bremner" printing machines, Conisbee's "Main" of that size, imported in 1868, having got beyond work requiring careful execution, and being practically useless for Bookwork. Of the vote of Rs. 7,500 for new Plant and Material, only Rs. 5,659·97 was expended, the balance being allowed to lapse on the condition that a supplementary vote for the amount would be allowed this year, the cost of the new machine (upwards of Rs. 3,000) being a heavy charge on the ordinary vote of any one year.

Type-casting.—In my report for 1885 I stated :—

One of the chief wants now is a type-casting machine, not to supersede recourse to English typefounders for large founts of type, but to enable "sorts" such as figures, spaces, quadrats, &c., to be cast on the premises accurately and quickly to meet the requirements of the moment.

It would be an immense advantage for us to be less dependent than we are on the English market, by becoming, even to a limited extent, our own typefounders. Hardly a week passes without some great inconvenience being felt—work often for a time being brought to a standstill—

for want of some type on which there is a "run." Information recently obtained from the Superintendent of Printing to the Government of India, who has been on a visit to this Island, has convinced me that the introduction of type-casting—which to a greater or less extent is now recognised as part of the work of large Printing Establishments far removed from sources of supply—should be provided for as early as possible, and that, starting at first on a small scale, and gradually feeling our way, as has been done in Calcutta, it might ultimately be carried on with success on a larger scale than I had in view in penning the above paragraph.

VII.—Cash Recoveries.

1886. Rs.	c.			1887. Rs.	c.
711	74	...	Subscriptions to and sales of *Gazette* ...	1,504	0
624	82	...	Unofficial advertisements in *Gazette* ...	662	38
486	13	...	Subscriptions to and sales of *Supreme Court Circular*...	443	12
199	5	...	Printing for Railway Department	8,901	49
3,992	53	...	Printing for Road Committees	5,891	22
88	50	...	Printing for Local Boards	368	83
84	76	...	Printing for Estates Branch, Medical Department ...	1,309	92
262	42	...	Sales of Ordinances, stamp vendors' forms, &c. ...	410	8
75	32	...	Sale of unserviceable articles	447	27
—		...	Refunds	59	54
6,525	27			20,007	85
2,350	16	...	Recoverable by Government Agents for Fiscals' advertisements in *Gazette*	1,580	0
958	0	...	Realised by sales at Record Office of books, &c., supplied by Government Printer... ...	1,016	85
9,833	43			22,604	70

The increase of Rs. 12,771·27 is chiefly due to recoveries being made from the Railway Department, whose printing was formerly executed free of charge, and to the increased demands for printed forms from Road Committees. The increased collection from the Medical Department is due to the fact that in 1886 recoveries on account of Estates Branch work were made only towards the close of that year. The increase on account of the *Gazette* arises from several subscriptions for 1888 having been paid before the close of the year.

The circulation of the *Gazette* and the *Supreme Court Circular* (of which only 23 numbers were published during the year) stood as follows at the close of the year :—

December, 1886. Officials.	Subscribers.		December, 1887. Officials.	Subscribers.
292	86	*Gazette* ...	288	93
162	37	*Supreme Court Circular* ...	163	47

VIII.—Buildings.

Better accommodation for the Composing and Machine Departments than is afforded by the old Printing Office could hardly be desired. Both floors, now that all partition walls have been removed, provide spacious workrooms, 130 ft. long by 47 ft. wide (the lower floor having also an enclosed 10 ft. verandah running along its whole length), which admit of close supervision being exercised by the respective Superintendents, while the light—a matter of primary importance—is excellent. The arrangement, however, under which the Warehouse and the Bindery and my office are located in a separate building, communication with which is carried on by means of a bridge 75 ft. long, is a most inconvenient one ; and I have recently submitted to Government that the old building should be extended by 50 ft., thus increasing its accommodation to the extent necessary to enable it to accommodate all branches of the establishment under one roof. This extension, I understand, would not cost more than Rs. 4,000 or Rs. 5,000.

The portion of the block of Public Buildings facing the esplanade, below the Public Instruction Office, which has been occupied since 1868, would then be available for some of the Public Departments which it is understood are now overcrowded.

IX.—Establishment.

The number of employés on December 31, 1887, was 193, one less than in the preceding year.

Mr. Coleman, Assistant Government Printer, obtained six months' leave of absence to proceed to England on private affairs at the beginning of August, and on the eve of his return (January this year) resigned his appointment. During his short service of 2½ years Mr. Coleman was very successful in training the hands in the Machine and Press Department in accordance with the system followed in English houses. The able services of Mr. Cottle, Second Assistant, were reported to Government in connection with his subsequent promotion to the post vacated by Mr. Coleman.

Of the native officers, the Head Reader and the several Foremen have, as usual, given satisfaction ; but the Reading Room is not as efficient as it should be, owing to the difficulty of obtaining as Readers men qualified both as regards education and technical knowledge. With the view of recommending fresh arrangements when opportunity permits, the vacancy which occurred in the Vernacular Readership during the year was only temporarily filled.

In regard to the working staff generally, the changes that have been steadily carried out since 1880 have had a marked effect in raising the efficiency of the men. I believe the average earnings of the better piece-work compositors (nearly Rs. 40 per month) will compare favourably with those earned in Indian offices (I shall not be satisfied, however, till they reach Rs. 50), while the machine minders have turned out very creditably. It is with some satisfaction that I am able to report that the training which men receive in this office is being recognised outside the Island, and that good openings for employment are presenting themselves. Last July a request was made

by the Fiji Government for two good compositors, and I selected two Burghers (one was an old *Observer* Office hand), who were appointed on three years' engagements at £70, £80, and £90 respectively, with the intimation that their services might be retained thereafter at £100 per annum. In January of this year a Sinhalese machine minder obtained a berth in the Government Printing Office at Penang, commencing on $35 a month. Shortly after I secured a post for an ex-Reader as Foreman in a Singapore newspaper office, the proprietors of which were so well satisfied that they wrote for and engaged four compositors (one Burgher and three Sinhalese). I trust that all these men will do credit to this Colony.

The clerical work of the office, to which I drew attention in my report for 1885, has gone on increasing, and the cost has risen from Rs. 1,258·59 in 1883 to Rs. 2,576·63 in 1887, an increase which has, however, been saved many times over in other directions. In addition to the fact that accounts are now kept of the consumption of material and of the cost of work, which some years ago were never attempted, the cash transactions have materially increased. In July the Auditor-General, who had been directed by Government to report upon the system of accounts obtaining in this office, was furnished with an explanatory statement, and subsequently reported that "the system of accounts adopted would seem to be adequate," merely proposing some "slight modifications," which have been carried out.

Departmental Sick Fund.—The contributions to this fund for the twelve months ending October amounted to Rs. 912·75, and the amount of sick pay granted to Rs. 317·80. The bonus declared at Christmas was 80 per cent. of the amount standing to each contributor's credit on October 31. A contributor in class A having died in the course of the year, a gratuity of Rs. 70 (recouped by a special call on contributors) was paid to his family.

Government Printing Office,
Colombo, 1888.

GEO. J. A. SKEEN,
Government Printer.

ERRATUM.—The last sentence (under *Departmental Sick Fund*) should read as follows:—"Two contributors in class A having died in the course of the year, gratuities of Rs. 75 (recouped by special calls on contributors) were in each case paid to their families."

I.—BOOKWORK.

STATEMENT showing the number of Pages printed in the Bookwork Department of the Government Printing Office during 1887, and the Actual Cost incurred.

NAME OF WORK AND SIZE OF PAGE. [° = *Brought forward from 1886.* † = *Unfinished.*]	No. of Pages. Type.	No. of Pages. Stereotype Plates.	No. of Copies.	Printing Charges inclusive of Superintendence.	Value of Paper.	Total Cost.
Royal.				Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Railway Time Tables	7	—	4,750	106 12	84 82	190 94
Sheet Almanac, 1888	1	—	4,050	71 29	109 69	180 98
	8	—	—	177 41	194 51	371 92
Foolscap Folio.						
Gazette with Supplements (weekly)	3,697	—	382	9,469 43	2,148 66	11,618 09
Post Office Daily List	1,128	—	252	1,144 85	537 00	1,681 85
Blue Book, 1886	568	—	110	2,234 32	208 39	2,442 71
Administration Reports, 1886	570	—	240	4,302 04	497 96	4,800 00
Sessional Papers, 1886°	302	—	285	1,184 59	339 75	1,524 34
Do. 1887†	321	—	225	1,253 45	218 74	1,472 19
Supplementary Schedules, 1887	16	—	60	110 85	6 28	117 13
Supply Schedules, 1887°	—	—	—	74 39	34 13	108 52
Do. 1888	112	—	140	208 15	48 29	256 44
Archæological Returns†	8	—	—	26 37	—	26 37
Code for Aided Schools for 1888	[24]	—	100	7 34	5 01	12 35
Observations on Green Scale Bug°	[6]	—	—	0 77	4 25	5 02
Miscellaneous	317	—	—	667 17*a*	228 25	895 42
	7,039	—	—	20,683 72	4,276 71	24,960 43
Demy 4to.						
Supreme Court Circular, Vol. VIII.°†	120	—	400	558 23*b*	82 88	641 11
Register of Books published (reprint from *Gazette*) ...	[68]	—	100	34 83	5 42	40 25
	120	—	—	593 06	88 30	681 36
Royal 8vo.						
Bills in Council	60	—	—	1,070 61	114 01	1,184 62
Legislative Enactments, Vol. IV., Part II. (1887) ...	[136]	—	500	230 87*c*	66 03	296 90
Translations of Ordinances	87	—	—	178 85*d*	3 49	182 34
Itinerary of Minor Roads (2nd edition)°† ...	64	—	200	316 22	9 87	326 09
Code for Aided Schools, Siṇhalese	—	24	200	12 32*e*	—	12 32
Do. Tamil	—	26	150	6 73	—	6 73
Siṇhalese Tíká on the Mahávaṇsa†	40	—	—	91 57*f*	—	91 57
English Translation, Ch. 39 to 100, of Mahávaṇsa† ...	148	—	500	358 73	48 63	407 36
Governors' Addresses, Vol. III.°†	48	—	100	42 09	2 76	44 85
Confidential	564	—	12	788 46	8 05	796 51
Departmental Regulations	44	—	—	164 06*g*	15 47	179 53
Miscellaneous	132	—	—	334 64*h*	87 54	422 18
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